

Asymptomatic testing at Saint Vincent's

What does asymptomatic testing mean?

Asymptomatic means an individual does not feel sick or have symptoms. They may or may not have the virus. People who are asymptomatic and have the virus can spread it to other people.

Most infected people show symptoms within five to six days. The time between infection and the onset of symptoms can range from one to 14 days.

What is the purpose of this testing for people who don't have symptoms?

The purpose is to detect positive cases in people who do not have symptoms before the virus spreads widely. Almost anyone can get a test, and we especially encourage anyone who has a lot of close interactions through social activities to get tested.

Who can get an asymptomatic test through this process?

Asymptomatic testing is available for people who:

- do not have symptoms
- have not travelled outside the Atlantic provinces within the past 14 days
- have not visited a potential exposure location
- have not been in contact with someone who has tested positive

What does a negative test result mean?

A negative test result is not definitive, but it is a good indication that a person is not likely carrying and transmitting the virus unknowingly on the day of the test. A person could test positive the next day, though. People who receive a negative test result must continue to follow public health measures and if they develop symptoms, immediately self-isolate and complete the COVID-19 self-assessment.

Where can I get tested?

Saint Vincent's Nursing Home is testing all employees and designated caregivers on a bi-weekly basis. Please bring your health card number. See Debbie Coombs our Infection Control Designate for details. She is located on the first floor across from the kitchen. 902-429-0550 x 136. dcoombs@svnh.ca

Do people have to self-isolate with this testing?

No.

How does the testing process work? When do you get results? What do you do if your results haven't arrived?

Negative test results are sent by email and positive cases and anyone without email are contacted by phone. If you've been waiting more than three full days for your test result, you can call Public Health at 1-844-996-0694 and leave a voice message. You will need to say and spell out your full name and leave your health card number, date of birth, and phone number.