FACT SHEET FOR COVID-19 TESTING

Thank you for getting tested for the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). If you have questions, please talk to your healthcare provider.

What is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It can cause mild to severe respiratory illness. COVID-19 likely spreads to others when a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, etc.).

Why should I get tested?
You should get tested because you may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 based on your signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing), and/or because:
- You live in or have recently traveled to a place where transmission of COVID-19 is known to occur, and/or
- You have been in close contact with an individual suspected of or confirmed to have COVID-19.

What if I don't have any symptoms?
Tests will also be offered to anyone without symptoms who has:
- Been in close contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive, and/or
- Lives in or has traveled to an area experiencing active transmission.

What does it mean if I have a positive test result?
If you have a positive test result, it is very likely that you have COVID-19. It is also likely that you may be placed in isolation to avoid spreading the virus to others. Your healthcare provider will work with you to determine how best to care for you based on the test results, medical history, and your symptoms. For questions, call the ADH Call Center at 1-800-803-7847, M-F from 8am-4:30pm.

What does it mean if I have a negative test result?
A negative test result means that the virus that causes COVID-19 was not found in your sample. A negative test result from a sample collected while a person has symptoms usually means that COVID-19 did not cause your recent illness. You should still do the following, to limit your risk of future exposure:
- Wash hands with soap and water often
- Wear a face covering (cloth mask) in public
- Maintain a distance of 6FT from you and others

How will I be notified of my results?
Until you are notified of your results, it is recommended that you self-quarantine if possible. If you are positive for COVID-19, you will receive a call from the Arkansas Department of Health. If results are negative for COVID-19, a letter will be mailed to the address you provided. If you provide a cell phone number, you will receive a text informing you of your negative results.