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### Coronavirus (COVID-19): what you need to do

#### Stay at home

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

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Public Health  
England

Guidance

## COVID-19: rapid tests for use in community pharmacies or at home

Published 15 March 2020

Some manufacturers are selling products for the diagnosis of COVID-19 infection in community settings, such as pharmacies.

The current view by PHE is that use of these products is **not** advised:

- some of these products look for virus while others look for the body's immune response to the virus. Such tests are very rapid and can work on a range of specimens including serum, plasma or finger-prick whole blood
- there is little information on the accuracy of the tests, or on how a patient's antibody response develops or changes during COVID-19 infection. It is not known whether either a positive or negative result is reliable
- currently there is no published evidence about the suitability of these tests for diagnosing COVID-19 infection in a community setting

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