

Walk-Through Testing Centre for Covid-19

1. Concept

The Safe Assessment and Fast Evaluation Technical booth of Yangji Hospital (SAFETY) system, which applied the techniques of a Bio Safety Cabinet (BSC) used in labs when handling hazardous material, is a one-person screening booth that separates doctors and patients. This reduces the risk of infection and allows medical personnel to collect samples swiftly and safely. The system also significantly reduces the testing time as it takes a minute to collect a sample and between 1-2 minutes to ventilate and disinfect the booth. Existing container box or pop-up tent test centres take 30-40 minutes alone for sanitation and ventilation after one evaluation.

Walk-through test centres target the elderly and children, who do not own cars, and has the advantage of requiring little space. It also alleviates fatigue among medical personnel through reducing the time and movement required for testing and providing a sense of security by avoiding direct contact between patient and doctors.

2. Testing Procedure

After completing an e-questionnaire at the waiting area, the patient walks into the booth and gets evaluated by medical personnel via intercom (questionnaire and consultation – 5 minutes). The medical personnel will then collect samples by swabbing the patient's nose and throat using arm-length gloves built into the panel (1-2 minutes). After the specimen is collected and the patient leaves the booth, the rubber layers on the gloves are replaced, and the booth is immediately disinfected using UV lamps and such (2 minutes). This is followed by a first round of ventilation, which takes 1-2 minutes, and a second round of safety ventilation requiring another 10 minutes. The signboard is then changed from "disinfection ongoing" to "disinfection complete." Overall it takes approximately 17 minutes per patient, from testing to disinfection.

5. Entity responsible for installation

The booths were not set up by the government, but by a private hospital. However, the government can work together with private hospitals to set up these booths.

6. Precaution

There is the risk of cross infection through gloves, hence the gloves need to be thoroughly infected and sealed with a plastic layer on top.

7. Sample pictures



(Source: inews24, Econovill.com, ajunews.com)

Test Site Questionnaire Sample

The below can be in the form of e-questionnaires or paper questionnaires

Name		Date of Birth	
Symptoms	Fever	Y/N	
	Pharyngitis		
	Cough		
	Shortness of breath		
	Phlegm		
	Chest pain		
	Muscle ache		
	Headache		
	Runny nose		
	Other Symptoms		
Travel History	Daegu		
	Gyeongbuk province		
	Eunpyeong St. Mary's Hospital		
	Area visited by confirmed patient		
	Others		
	Overseas		
Pre-existing conditions	Diabetes		
	Chronic Kidney Disease		
	Hypertension		
	Organ Transplant		
	Chronic lung disease		
	Cardiac disease		
	Others		
Medication consumed within past 48 hours	Fever medication		
	Antibiotics		
	Anti-inflammatory meds		

(Ewha University Seoul Hospital Covid-19 designated clinic questionnaire)

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