

COVID-19 RESEARCH STUDY – PK Yonge Research Arm FAQ

Do I need to bring anything with me to my child's testing appointment?

You will need to bring a parent/guardian photo ID and a copy of your confirmation email printed, or on your phone

How long will it take to complete my child's testing appointment?

15 minutes

How early should I arrive for my child's appointment?

Please plan to arrive about 10 minutes early

Am I able to schedule a same-day appointment?

No

What do I do if I have made an appointment and need to reschedule?

Please contact us at 352-328-0615 and we will confirm when we can see you for testing.

If I am running late for my child's testing appointment, should I still show up for testing or do I need to reschedule?

If you are running late, contact our team at 352-328-0615 and we can confirm when we can see you in between patients.

If my child is having respiratory symptoms or fever, should I still come to my testing appointment?

If your child is experiencing severe symptoms, please contact your child's primary care physician for guidance. If you need emergency care, please call 911 or report to your nearest emergency department.

If your child is experiencing fever or other mild symptoms, they are still eligible for testing. You will need to communicate this to the research team when you arrive for testing. Please assure that you and the child are wearing a mask in the car.

Is this study only for P.K. Yonge Students? What if my friends, family, etc. want to get tested?

This research study is only being offered to currently enrolled P.K. Yonge students.

How does the testing work?

A swab on a plastic stick will be inserted into your nose or throat (depending on swab type available) and gently rotated to collect the sample. This takes about 10 seconds and while a little uncomfortable, is not painful.

What kind of finger stick is taken to collect the blood sample?

A device similar to a diabetic finger stick device (spring loaded) will be used to prick the skin to the side of the pad of the middle or ring finger. The finger will be cleaned with an alcohol swab, the device is pressed to the skin, a button is pressed, the skin is pricked, the device is discarded and then a drop of blood is placed onto a collection device. This may require the finger to be massaged to get the correct drop size.

What will you do with the blood spot (finger prick) sample?

The blood spot will be analyzed for the presence of antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19. The test will provide important information to public health scientists to assist them in determining the extent of exposure of a population to the virus.

Is the blood spot (antibody) test used to diagnose COVID-19?

No. We wish to make it clear that a blood spot (antibody) test is NOT a diagnostic tool for COVID-19. A positive blood spot test (that is, the presence of antibodies against the virus) only means that the patient has come in contact with the virus.

Does a positive blood spot (antibody) test mean that the patient/my child is immune to COVID-19?

No. A positive blood spot (antibody) test does NOT measure or predict protective immunity to COVID-19.

When will the results of the blood spot (antibody) tests be available?

These samples will be analyzed at a later date when the test protocol has been established and validated (i.e. shown to produce reliable results). If and when individual results are available, participants will be contacted directly about receiving results.

If I make an appointment, when and where is testing being done?

When you book your appointment, you will receive a confirmation with the date, time, and location of your appointment, as well as other details.

What steps are taken to assure safety?

The person doing the test will be wearing a gown, eye protection, and a mask. Between tests, they will gel hands, apply new gloves, and gell the new gloves. The forehead thermometer is cleaned between participants using a cleaning agent sanctioned for covid (e.g. ammonium chloride). The finger prick kits are single use and the throat swabs are single use. The only points of contact are the tip of the swab, the temperature check, and the finger prick. Alcohol spray will be offered at the end of testing.

How do I cancel my appointment?

You do not need to do anything to cancel your testing appointment. If you do not show up, and you do not notify the testing team, the test will be reallocated to someone else.

How will negative test results be communicated to me?

You will receive an email within 72 hours if your negative results

How will positive results be communicated to me?

You will be contacted by phone by the Research Study Staff within 72 hours with your results and recommendations.

If I have not received my results in 72 hours, should I contact someone?

Yes. After 72 hours, if you have not received your results, please contact our team at 352-328-0615

My research results were negative but now I am having symptoms, what do I do?

Self-quarantine and contact your health care provider for further instructions. If it becomes a medical emergency, call 911 or proceed to your nearest emergency department for assistance.

If I decide that I no longer want to be a part of the research study, whom do I contact?

Contact our team at 352-328-0615

What if I want my child tested, but s/he doesn't want to be?

Each child over the age of eight years of age will need to assent, or agree, to being in the study. They will be asked again, after initial online assent, when you arrive to have your child tested. While children don't like to have finger sticks or throat swabs, they will need to give their assent - agreement - to be tested. If a child does not give assent, the research team will not collect the samples.

I received an error that I am unable to register, but want to have my child tested, what can I do?

Unfortunately, we do not have enough supplies to test all students and are only testing 85 per grade. Therefore, if all of your student's' grade slots have filled up, no additional research testing will be available through this study.