

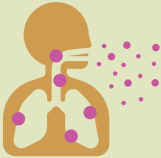






# Why we need 100% PCR testing

A virus infects and behaves differently in different people.

This infographic/visual shares the progression of virus and the way test kit works in majority of people.

	Symptoms	Transmission Risk	RDT Test	PCR Test
<b>Day 1</b> 	Person acquires a virus.	No	✗ No Detection	✗ No Detection
<b>Day 2—3</b> 	Virus starts replicating and growing.	● Low	✗ No Detection	✗ No Detection
<b>Day 4—5</b> 	The virus starts spreading in the body, mainly clustering around throat and lungs.	● ● ● ● Very High	✗ No Detection	? PCR test starting to detect the virus
<b>Day 6—10</b> 	Some people start to show symptoms.	● ● ● ● Very High	✗ No Detection	✓ PCR detects the virus
	Some people show no symptoms.	● ● ● High	✗ No Detection	✓ PCR detects the virus
<b>Day 11—15</b> 	Some people develop severe symptoms.	● ● ● ● Very High	? Only a few may show RDT positive result	✓ PCR detects the virus
	Some people do not get ill.	● ● Medium	? Only a few may show RDT positive result	✓ PCR detects the virus
<b>Day 15—20</b> 	Sick people start to get better.	● Low	? More people will start testing positive in RDT	? PCR test may show infrequent results
	Some people die.	● ● Medium	? RDT may or may not show positive result	? PCR may or may not show positive result
	People who show no sickness get cured.	No	✓ RDT shows positive result	? PCR will mostly show negative result
<b>Day 21—25</b> 	Most people are cured of the virus.	No	✓ RDT shows positive result	? PCR will show very few positive result

Testing and detecting during this period reduces transmission risk.

Testing and detecting during this period is good to know, but does not help. Not all who have infection show positive result in RDT due to its limitation.



# **Why we need 100% PCR testing**

**The goal in prevention and control of COVID-19 is to identify the infected person early and stop him/her from transmitting the virus to others. Since PCR is the only test that shows accurate results when people are still infective, it is important we use only PCR testing and that people get tested early.**