

# Innova Rapid Antigen Test as Public Health Screening Tool |

Let's  
Talk  
About  
It



“Antigen tests can be used to determine whether a person has enough of a COVID-19 viral load to be contagious to other people,” said Dr. Anthony Fauci this week as part of a panel discussion presented by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the New England Journal of Medicine.



As director of The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. Fauci recommended the rapid antigen test for screening in high-risk communities such as universities or nursing homes.

*Dr. Fauci said,*

**“They’re a good way to get a feel for what the penetration of infection is in a particular group of people.”**

Rapid antigen tests measure the level of virus load and reduce chances of transmission by identifying “infectious”, asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic people. New outbreaks of COVID-19 can be quickly identified before further community spread.

*Dr. Michael Mina, assistant professor, epidemiologist, Harvard School of Public Health, also addressed the panel, called “Chasing Science to Save Lives.” Dr. Mina described rapid testing as an important tool tailored for public health. Mina advocated “...getting rapid testing into everyone’s home in America so that they can know their status on a frequent basis and stop their onward transmission.”*

Public health officials see rapid antigen testing as an essential screening and surveillance tool where healthcare resources are already strained and setting up an RT-PCR facility becomes a challenge. Mass screening serves as a snapshot of an evolving situation; the incidence of COVID-19 at a given moment. Repeated, rapid antigen testing is extremely affordable, efficient, and convenient in point-of-care settings. The test can determine, in as little as 15 minutes, whether a person is contagious with the virus, needs to isolate, and trace their contacts.

Innova’s rapid antigen tests are sensitive with 99.68% accuracy and a 0.06% false positive rate in a lab setting, according to published results from a University of Oxford and Public Health England (PHE) clinical study. A false positive reading is rare, but even with it, medical officials believe that result is better than unknowingly spreading infection. A false negative result, in an antigen test, usually means there is a low viral load which can scarcely transmit the disease, or that a poor sample was collected. The test sample provides a measure of the viral load, in what is called the cycle threshold (Ct) value. The cycle threshold increases as the amount of virus in the body decreases.



For more information on Innova Medical Group’s COVID-19 ecosystem or to order COVID-19 Rapid Diagnostic Tests contact:

**Innova Medical Group at +1 (626) 239 0025**

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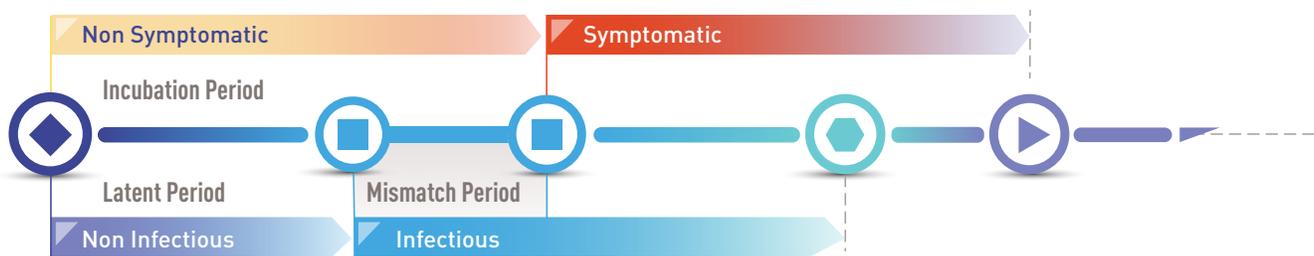


UP TO **1** IN **5**

coronavirus infections present with no symptoms, but they are still contagious.



The INNOVA SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Qualitative Test identifies those at risk of spreading coronavirus rather than just spotting anyone who is infected.



### Incubation Period

The time between infection and when one shows symptoms. That could range from two to 14 days: typically, about six to seven days.

### Latent Period

The time between when a person is infected and when he or she becomes infectious and able to spread disease.

### Mismatch Period

The difference between the latent and incubation period.

As the chart above indicates, a person can go through a four-to-five-day incubation period before becoming infectious. Usually, peak virus load is reached eight days after infection. Many people will not take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test until they show symptoms, and then with laboratory restrictions, it could take several more days to know if one is infected. PCR tests do not break the chain of infection as a rapid antigen test will by giving a several day head start in self-isolating and tracing contacts. Rapid antigen tests can help hospital personnel make quick decisions about whether to send a patient home or admit them for treatment. Also, rapid antigen tests can identify asymptomatic healthcare workers, front line responders and other essential workers, who have a great deal of public contact.

The UK Government selected the Innova rapid antigen test as part of a two-week trial in Liverpool for free, convenient testing in this high-risk community, identified as one of the country's worst hit cities for COVID-19. Liverpool Mayor, Joe Anderson, said that the virus was out of control and mass surveillance testing prevented thousands from becoming infected. The National Health Service (NHS) will now

rollout Innova rapid antigen test kits to 67 more areas. Local authorities will target high-risk workplaces and hard-to-reach communities with these easy-to-use lateral flow tests. The goal of UK's Operation Moonshot is to screen millions of asymptomatic people every day with more testing than in any other European country.

**Dr. Fauci said that it's "disturbing and puzzling" why most people do fine with the virus while there is such a high death toll, 286-thousand deaths in the US alone.**

**Dr. Fauci said, "I've never seen a virus like this that has the capability of having 40 to 50 percent of people not get any symptoms. They're the ones who are responsible, in large part, for the silent community spread. A substantial proportion of the people, who get symptoms, have mild symptoms and yet that same virus has the capability of devastating other people, putting them in the hospital and killing them."**