# COVID-19 Test Us

## Lessons learned from our studies:

Researchers have been evaluating new ways to test people infected with COVID. In just a few short months, from our Winter Update 2021 to our Spring Update 2021, the number of studies has increased from 6 to 10; the number of participants grows everyday but from the Winter to the Spring, study participants have increased by 400 participants and 2 additional devices have received Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA.

# What types of tests best identify when people infected with COVID can spread the infection?

To answer this question, researchers had people who were newly infected with COVID take two different types of tests, the standard tests currently used and a new rapid test, every day for two weeks. They compared those test results to a special test that measures how easily someone can spread the infection to others, that is, how infectious they are. What they found was that all the tests were very good at identifying people who were infected with COVID and able to spread COVID to others. The study found that repeating tests two or three times a week is a good way to find most infections, even when using a rapid test.

However, researchers found that the standard tests were better than the rapid tests at identifying people who were infected with COVID <u>before</u> they became infectious and could spread COVID to others. The research suggests the best approach is to use the rapid tests two to three times per week to identify people infected with COVID, and to use the standard tests to identify people before they are able to spread COVID.

### **Participating Sites**

Our participating sites are the driving force behind the clinical core of RADx. They help a wide variety of people like you learn about the studies and get involved.

#### Participating Sites

UMass Medical School, Worcester, MA • Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois • Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia • Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD • University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL • University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA • University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS • Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, OR • Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

#### Quest Diagnostics

This is the lab that runs the standard COVID-19 tests and gets results to participants.

#### Eureka

This is the team at University of California, San Francisco that built the application you used to participate in the study.

#### NIH

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# Spring Update



# you for your role in this national effort.

## **Study Update**



If you have not done so already, please activate the gift card you received for participating in the Test Us study. If you have trouble activating it, please reach us at COVID19TestUs@umassmed.edu or call us at 508-856-8378 (TEST).

## www.covid19testus.org





National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute





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