

# Three Types of COVID-19 Tests

- 1. Rapid (“antigen”) tests:** Will not detect COVID-19 as well in asymptomatic individuals (those without COVID-19 symptoms) as those with symptoms.
  - Will provide results in between 15 minutes and a few hours
  - Are not as reliable as PCR tests
  - May need to be repeated
- 2. PCR tests:** Detect whether you *currently* have COVID-19. They are also sometimes called “diagnostic” tests because they can help diagnose you with COVID-19.
  - Will *usually* provide results within 48-72 hours
  - Are more reliable than rapid (antigen) tests
- 3. Antibody tests:** Detect whether you have *previously* had COVID-19 in the past few months. Antibody tests *will not* tell you if you currently have COVID-19.