

Sample types for testing

Alt-text Figure 1 - COVID-19 testing strategies

Illustration presenting characteristics of each type of COVID-19 testing. Personal health includes diagnostics of asymptomatic and at-risk individuals and uses qPCR, LAMP and antigen. Populational health is used for surveillance in asymptomatic individuals, wastewater, and surfaces while screening tests can be used to test everyone. Tests used include qPCR, antigen, LAMP, antibodies and pooling for surveillance purposes, and antigen plus confirmation with LAMP, or qPCR for screening.

Alt-text Figure 2 - Sensitivity results for the PCR test

Six plots showing the sensitivity results for the PCR test in different samples. In summary, stool/rectal swabs (A), urine (B) and blood (C), showed poor sensitivity to detect SARS-CoV-2 compared to respiratory samples such as sputum (D), saliva (E) and nasopharyngeal aspirate/swab and throat swab (F).