WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF COVID-19 TESTS?

It's important to know that anyone with one or more symptoms of COVID-19 needs to be tested and should isolate immediately upon noticing symptoms.

Symptoms of COVID-19:

- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Body aches/fatigue
- Sore throat
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Headache
- Fever/chills
- Loss of taste and/or smell

PCR TESTS:

PCR Tests are the "gold standard." They detect viral genetic material (RNA) in a person's nose or throat. Although results take longer (3-7 days), they are the most accurate tests for COVID-19.

PCR tests are available at Portage County's free community testing site or with your healthcare provider.

ANTIGEN TESTS:

Similar to a rapid strep or influenza test, results of a COVID-19 antigen test are typically known within the hour. These test samples are analyzed at the place of testing. Antigen tests work best when used on people with symptoms. A follow-up PCR test is required within 48 hours if you have symptoms and test negative or have no symptoms and test positive.

Antigen tests are available through your healthcare provider or through UWSP's Surge Testing.

ANTIBODY TESTS:

Antibody blood tests show if a person has evidence of antibodies against COVID-19, meaning they were previously infected. This does NOT mean they are immune and won't get COVID-19 again.

Antibody tests are only available through a healthcare provider and may be used to identify a past infection.

Speak with your healthcare provider about which test might be right for you. For questions, call Portage County Public Health at 715-345-5350, option 8.

LOCAL COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS:

COVID-19 testing is FREE for anyone who is experiencing a symptom of COVID-19, or if you are a close contact.

Location	Insurance	Symptoms or close contact required	Residency required	PCR Test	Antigen Test
Portage County Community Testing Site 1519 Whiting Ave. Stevens Point WI 54481	You will not be asked to present insurance.	✓	WI residents 5 years+.	✓	
UWSP Champions Hall Fieldhouse (West Entrance)	You will not be asked to present insurance.		Accepting all individuals 5 years+.	Limited supply of PCR on site.	✓
Aspirus 1-844-568-0701 or schedule on MyAspirus app	All health insurance policies are required to provide coverage for the COVID-19 test; if you do not have insurance, a federal uninsured program will cover the cost.	✓		✓	✓
Ascension 1-833-981-0711		✓	Clinician order required.	✓	
Marshfield Clinic Health System 1-844-342-6276		✓		✓	

*If you need to be tested for a medical reason or with an antibody test, contact your healthcare provider.

Anyone tested MUST quarantine until they receive their results. Close contacts must complete their 14-day quarantine regardless of test results.

PORTAGE COUNTY FREE COMMUNITY TESTING SITE:

HOURS: Mondays from 9 am– 5 pm
Tuesdays from 1– 5 pm
Thursdays from 9 am– 1 pm

Pre-registration is encouraged.
Scan the QR code or visit:
register.covidconnect.wi.gov

Access testing off of Arlington Place, turn South onto Elk St and entrance will be clearly marked.

UWSP ANTIGEN TESTING:

HOURS: Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 am– 4 pm

Appointments are **required.**
Schedule a free antigen test at:
www.doineedacovid19test.com

Park in Lot F West at Fourth Ave. and Isadore streets and enter hall through west doors.

**For more community testing locations, visit:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm**

PORTAGE COUNTY
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public Health