

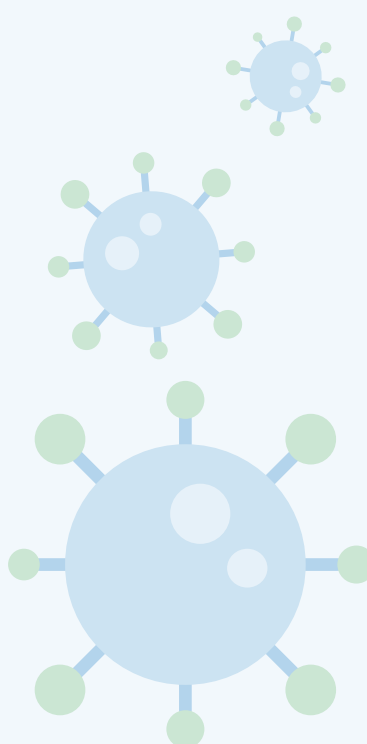
# Why is testing for SARS-CoV-2 important?

Test should be **reliable, accurate, affordable, accessible and provide results rapidly\***



## Results of testing are important for a number of reasons:

- Enables individuals to know if they are infected
- Ensures appropriate clinical care and support to individuals
- Prevents transmission by empowering individuals to protect their families and communities
- Enables a better understanding of where the virus is circulating to inform the COVID-19 response



## Examples of where testing can be done:



Health care facilities, clinics, health centers, and pharmacies



Community-based testing sites, such as walk-through or drive-through centers, through outreach



Specific settings, including to protect vulnerable populations, in closed communities, as part of sentinel surveillance, etc.



At home

\* National programs may choose to implement and adjust testing strategies based on local epidemiology, capacities and overall goals. For additional information, visit: <https://who.int/covid-19>, <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-lab-testing-2021.1-eng> and [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Ag-RDTs-Self\\_testing-2022.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Ag-RDTs-Self_testing-2022.1)