COVID-19 - Symptoms

COVID 19 affects different people in different ways most infected people will develop mild to moderate illness and recover without hospitalization.

Most common Symptoms;

- Fever

- Tiredness

- Cough

Less common symptoms;

- Aches and pains

- Sore throat

- Diarrhoea

- Conjunctivitis

- Headache

- Loss of taste or smell

- Rash on skin

- Discolouration of fingers or toes

Serious symptoms;

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

- Chest pain or pressure

- Loss of speech or movement

Seek immediate medical attention if you have serious symptoms. Always call before visiting your doctor or health facility.

People with mild symptoms who are otherwise healthy should manage their symptoms at home.

On average it takes 5-6 days from when someone is infected with the virus for symptoms to show, however it can take up to 14 days.

- Individuals with signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

- Individuals with no symptoms (are asymptomatic) with known or suspected exposure to SARS-CoV-2 for early identification in certain settings (such as nursing homes).

- Individuals being tested to determine the resolution of a prior positive test.

- Individuals tested for purposes of public health surveillance.

Test positive for COVID-19 with next steps including monitoring your symptoms, watching for emergency medical signs, engaging in home isolation and maintaining close communication with a healthcare provider.

Test Negative for COVID-19 which means you were not infected at the time the sample was collected and analysed. This doesn't mean that you won't get sick, only that you didn't have COVID-19 when were tested.

Antibody Tests are performed by drawing blood and conducting a laboratory test to check for antibodies that would have present if you had a past infection of SARS-Cov-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. An antibody test should not be used to determine current infection as it can take your body one to two weeks after infection.