

COVID-19 SCREENING TESTING TO SAFELY REOPEN IN 2021

WHAT IS SHIELD ILLINOIS?

- SHIELD Illinois utilizes the covidSHIELD saliva-based RT-PCR test that is easy to administer, highly accurate and available at a low cost, with results in 24 hours or less.
- covidSHIELD received emergency use authorization from the FDA, allowing it to expand broadly through a statewide network of CLIA laboratories.
- Developed by scientists at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the covidSHIELD process helped the university operate safely in person during the 2020-21 academic year.

WHY IS SCREENING TESTING FOR COVID-19 IMPORTANT?

- covidSHIELD takes a proactive approach to quickly isolate individuals who test positive in order to reduce virus spread.
- Frequent, widespread testing allows SHIELD Illinois to identify infected people before they show symptoms or are able to transmit the virus to others.

How a virus with a reproduction number (R_0) of 2 spreads



WHAT TESTS ARE AVAILABLE?

MOLECULAR TESTS

Identify RNA sequences within the nucleus of the COVID-19 virus



- Molecular tests have a more reliable rate of true positive results than antigen tests
- Molecular PCR tests like SHIELD can detect the virus within 2 days of infection

VS

ANTIGEN TESTS

Identify surface proteins on the COVID-19 virus



- Antigen tests have a high accuracy for people with COVID-19 symptoms
- Antigen tests typically provide faster results than molecular tests

WHAT TYPES OF MOLECULAR TESTS ARE AVAILABLE?

CLIA APPROVED PCR TESTING

- Accuracy has made it the gold standard of COVID-19 tests
- Individuals who test positive don't need to seek out a second confirmatory test
- Accurately detect asymptomatic cases and cases with low viral loads
- Test undergoes a thorough validation protocol and is performed by highly trained and qualified personnel
- Fluorescent probe-based detection technology makes the assay highly specific and sensitive

SURVEILLANCE-BASED RT-LAMP TESTING

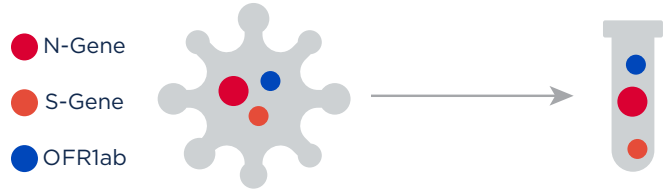
- Faster results and less expensive than PCR tests
- Requires a second test when utilized as a surveillance test
- Not as sensitive as PCR tests to patients with low viral loads
- After a positive test, individuals are recommended to get a CLIA-approved test
- No quality control or proficiency testing program

WHY USE SALIVA SAMPLES?

- Easier to administer than nasopharyngeal swabs
- Doesn't require medically trained personnel to collect samples
- Catches asymptomatic individuals sooner than nasal swab tests
- Non-invasive sample collection

WHY IS THE SHIELD TEST SUPERIOR?

- covidSHIELD tests for 3 genes in SARS-CoV-2 virus instead of 1 like some other tests
- This increases covidSHIELD's accuracy and increases its ability to detect variants
- SHIELD uses reagent from Thermo Fisher, which is 1 of only 3 on market that CDC recommends to identify virus variants



- 3 genes identified by SHIELD Test
- 1 gene identified by other saliva tests

WHY TEST NOW THAT VACCINES ARE AVAILABLE?

- Herd immunity isn't likely to happen in 2021
- Even though vaccines are recommended, no vaccine is 100% effective
- Children under the age of 12 aren't able to be vaccinated

WHY CHOOSE SHIELD?

	FREE FOR SCHOOLS	The SHIELD Illinois test is free for students in Illinois public schools outside the city of Chicago
	FAST RESULTS	Results will be sent to the individual, organization, and IDPH within 24 hours after samples reach the lab
	HIGH ACCURACY	In a recent clinical trial, SHIELD Illinois' test had a 97% sensitivity and 99% specificity
	EASY TO USE	SHIELD Illinois' test is easy to use and doesn't require medical personnel to collect samples
	FDA AUTHORIZATION	SHIELD Illinois' test received emergency use authorization from the FDA and is processed in CLIA-certified labs

RECOMMENDED MITIGATION STEPS



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

- ✓ Antigen vs. Molecular PCR testing
- ✓ Saliva testing SHIELD Illinois
- ✓ K-12 Playbook covidSHIELD FDA EUA
- ✓ SHIELD testimonials
- ✓ How to collect samples