

pharmaSuisse Schweizerischer Apothekerverband

Information on coronavirus self-tests

Date: October 1, 2021

You have obtained a coronavirus self-test kit from our pharmacy. Please pay attention to the important tips below. **The self-test is no substitute for the rules on hygiene and social distancing or existing precautionary measures.**

Eidgenössisches Departement des Innern EDI

Bundesamt für Gesundheit BAG

What's important to remember when obtaining and using self-tests?

Self-tests have a significantly lower detection rate than PCR tests, so the results are less meaningful – especially for people without symptoms.

When does a self-test make sense?	 For people without symptoms and contact with COVID-19 cases who want to do a test at home. For people who have not (yet) been vaccinated or who have not had and recovered from COVID.
When should you not do a selftest?	 Self-tests shouldn't be done by people who have symptoms of illness. These people should have a PCR or rapid antigen test at a hospital, medical practice, test centre or pharmacy. Self-tests shouldn't be done before visiting people who are at high risk or health facilities. Self-tests shouldn't be used for repetitive tests in schools, companies and institutions.
Where can self-test kits be obtained?	In Switzerland self-test kits are available from pharmacies and from retailers against payment.
Who pays for self-tests?	As of October 1, 2021, the federal government has stopped covering the cost of the self-tests. However, they are still available for purchase.
How many self-tests can you obtain from a pharmacy?	There is no limitation for the purchase of self-tests.
How do I use the self-test correctly?	The patient information leaflet that comes with the kit describes how to use it. The QR code opposite will take you to an explanatory video
The result of my self-test is positive What should I do?	The result must be confirmed immediately (within 72 hours) with a PCR test. This confirmatory PCR test is free of charge. Please get a test immediately. QR code: Where can I get tested? Please go into self-isolation until you have the result of your confirmatory PCR test.
The result of my self-test is negative What should I do?	 Continue to follow the rules on social distancing and hygiene issued by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH). Your test result is valid only on the day of the test. If you have symptoms, have a test at a hospital, medical practice, test centre or pharmacy. Find out more on your canton's coronavirus information website

Your pharmacist is there to help if you have any questions or if anything is unclear.