

Q&A for Pre-admission COVID-19 Test

Why do I have to do the Covid-19 test prior to admission?

As Covid-19 is spreading in the community in Hong Kong, the hospital has enhanced our preventative measures to further protect the health and safety of all patients and staff. Effective from 27th July, we require patients being admitted for endoscopic procedures, maxillofacial and ear nose and throat surgery, and maternity care to have a negative Covid-19 certificate prior to admission to our hospital.

What kind of Certificate is required?

We accept results of deep throat saliva tests or nasopharyngeal swab (NPS) tests from recognised government laboratories. For details please visit here:
https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories.pdf

Where can I do the test?

There are many facilities in Hong Kong that can provide such test. We suggest you to contact your doctor's clinic to arrange the test. If it is not available, you can either do the test at one of the government recognised laboratories (https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories.pdf) or at the Matilda Medical Centre, Matilda Clinic - Caine Road or the Outpatient Department at the hospital.

At Matilda, we only provide the deep throat saliva test for preadmission screening purpose.

How much is the test?

Depending on the type of test you choose and the location, the price of the test might vary.

If you choose to do the test through Matilda, there is a reduced rate available to patients with a booked admission. The test fee is \$1200 and includes the testing and a doctor consultation. This will be billed to your inpatient invoice.

When do I have to do the test?

The validity of a negative test result is six days.

The validity counts from the day of the sample is collected. For example, if you have a procedure booked on 15th Friday, you should drop off your sample on 11th Monday the earliest.

Maternity patients should take the expected due date, elective caesarean section date or induction date as reference, and arrange the sample to be dropped off six days prior to that.

How can I get the test done?

If you choose to do the test with us, a consultation with a General Practitioner is required. Please contact the Matilda Medical Centre (2537 8500), Matilda Caine Road Clinic (2849 2216) or Outpatient Department (2849 1500) to arrange an appointment.

During the consultation, you will need to complete a simple consent form, then a sampling bottle will be given to you to bring home. The deep throat saliva sampling is best to be done in the early morning and you should follow the instructions given by the nurses.

You MUST drop off your sample together with the consent form, at the Matilda Medical Centre before 10am (Monday to Friday) on the same morning you produce it.

Failure to drop off the sample promptly will cause a delay in the results being available or affect the quality of the sample which would then need repeating. Delayed test results may lead to a rescheduling of your planned admission. Please contact us if you have any questions during the sampling process.

When will I get the result?

If you do the test at the Matilda premises, the test result should be available in 36-48 hours, this will be copied to the clinic by email.

If you choose to do the test in another clinic or laboratory, please email the result to cv19@matilda.org prior to your admission.

What happens if I am in early labour and do not have the test result?

We understand that for maternity services this may happen. In this situation the hospital will need to isolate you, do the test and put in additional preventative measures whilst waiting the results. As this will add more cost for you, and there is limited testing available it would be the last resort.

If I do not want to do the test , what will happen?

In order to protect you and our staff, it is stringent admission criteria that all selected patients groups must have a valid test result prior to admission. If you do not wish to take the test you can choose to reschedule your procedure to a later date when the threat of COVID-19 is reduced, you will need to let your doctor know.

What if I test positive?

All positive test result must be reported to Centre of Health Protection who will contact you to arrange treatment and isolation within the Hospital Authority.