You are being given this Fact Sheet because your sample(s) was tested for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) using the **Real-Time Fluorescent RT-PCR Kit for Detecting SARS-CoV-2**.

This Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of using this test for the diagnosis of COVID-19. After reading this Fact Sheet, if you have questions or would like to discuss the information provided, please talk to your healthcare provider.

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**For the most up to date information on COVID-19 please visit the CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) webpage:**
https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19

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**What is COVID-19?**
COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus which is a new virus in humans causing a contagious respiratory illness. COVID-19 can present with a mild to severe illness, although some people infected with COVID-19 may have no symptoms at all. Older adults and people of any age who have underlying medical conditions have a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Serious outcomes of COVID-19 include hospitalization and death. The SARS-CoV-2 virus can be spread to others not just while one is sick, but even before a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (e.g., fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, etc.). A full list of symptoms of COVID-19 can be found at the following link: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html.

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**What is the **Real-Time Fluorescent RT-PCR Kit for Detecting SARS-CoV-2**?**
The test is designed to detect the virus that causes COVID-19 in respiratory specimens, for example nasal or oral swabs.

**Why was my sample tested?**
You were tested because your healthcare provider believes you may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 based on your signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing), and/or because:

- You live in or have recently traveled to a place where transmission of COVID-19 is known to occur, and/or
- You have been in close contact with an individual suspected of or confirmed to have COVID-19.

Testing of the samples will help find out if you may have COVID-19.

**What are the known and potential risks and benefits of the test?**
Potential risks include:

- Possible discomfort or other complications that can happen during sample collection.
- Possible incorrect test result (see below for more information).

Potential benefits include:

- The results, along with other information, can help your healthcare provider make informed recommendations about your care.
- The results of this test may help limit the spread of COVID-19 to your family and those you come in contact with.

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**Where can I go for updates and more information?** The most up-to-date information on COVID-19 is available at the CDC General webpage: [https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19). In addition, please also contact your healthcare provider with any questions/concerns.
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