

COVID-19
TESTING FOR
SCHOOL
REOPENING

JANUARY,
2021

STATE OF MICHIGAN GUIDELINES FOR OPERATING SCHOOLS SAFELY

SARS-COV-2 TESTING IN SCHOOLS

Testing to diagnose COVID-19 is part of a comprehensive strategy and should be used in conjunction with promoting behaviors that reduce spread (e.g., mask use, social distancing, hand hygiene); maintaining healthy environments (e.g., cleaning and disinfection, ventilation); managing school operations (e.g., class sizes); and preparing for when someone gets sick.

Testing is not a requirement for schools to return to in-person learning. Schools that follow existing guidance carefully and diligently are not considered major risks for outbreaks. However, testing and early detection of cases may be one additional tool that may be used to allow for in-person instruction.

The state has worked with the Michigan High School Sports Association to pilot a testing program in 200 state high schools. Now that feasibility has been assessed, the state will roll out a voluntary program to offer weekly testing to educators in public schools. Additional pilot programs may also be offered to school districts that are interested in a limited amount of student testing for the purposes of surveillance.

Testing in schools is not a replacement for mitigation practices, including use of masks and social distancing.

Overview

- Testing is not a requirement for schools to return to in-person learning.
- Schools that follow existing guidance carefully and diligently are not considered major risks for outbreaks.
- Testing and early detection of cases may be one additional tool that may be used to allow for in-person instruction.

Key Takeaways

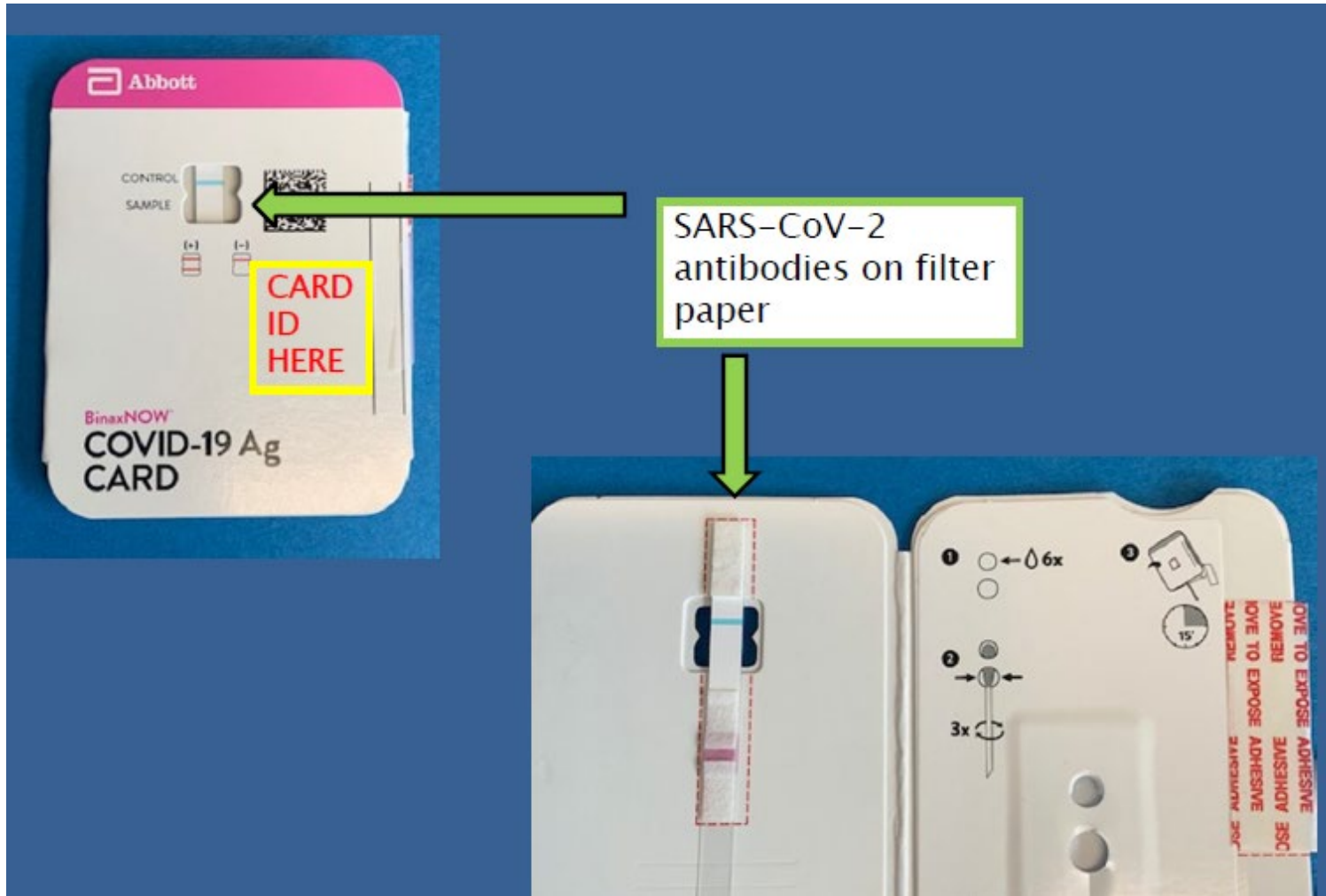
- Overall, schools deemed this testing pilot a success
 - Teams were able to test > 80 people per hr (4 staff)
 - **The pilot allowed 7,000 student-athletes and staff in 200 schools to safely participate in play-offs**
- **>99% of the tests were negative**
- Testing these student-athlete and staff allowed us to uncover 43 COVID-positive student athletes

Nasal Swab
NOT an NP!

Fact Sheet
for Patients



What the
test looks
like

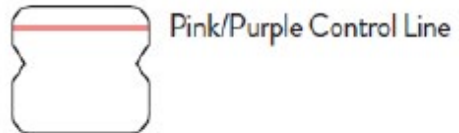


What the
test looks
like



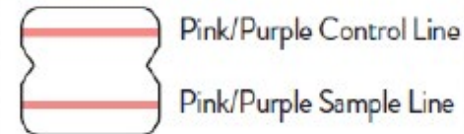
Interpreting Results and Reporting

Negative Result



- Control line is Pink
- Sample line is blank (empty)

Positive Result



- Control line is Pink
- Sample line is Pink

What the
test looks
like

Engagement with affected stakeholders

- Email, webinar, letter etc
 - Educators
 - Parents
 - School nurses

Next...

Questions

Intro webinar
on Thursday