



Rapid antigen test (RAT)

Revision Feb 2023



Expert consensus

1. We recommend the rapid antigen test (RAT) be used in conjunction with the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for enhanced diagnostic accuracy.

D
Strongly against

C
Conditionally against

I
Inconclusive

B
Conditionally Recommend

A
Strongly recommended

2. For suspected COVID-19 cases, we generally do not recommend the RAT alone. However, as an exception, RAT may be used when the prevalence of COVID-19 increases and there are limitations in performing polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests.

Clinical considerations:

While there are no significant differences in diagnostic accuracy based on virus variants, sensitivity tends to be lower in asymptomatic cases. However, additional studies are needed on newly emerging variants.

Contrast-enhanced chest CT scan

Revision Jan 2023



D
Strongly against

C
Conditionally against

I
Inconclusive

B
Conditionally Recommend

A
Strongly recommended

We suggest contrast-enhanced chest CT for patients with COVID-19 suspected of having a pulmonary embolism because of the elevated D-dimer level in a blood test and the presentation of suspicious symptoms, including dyspnea, hypoxia, and chest pain.

Chest X-ray follow-up

Retain Dec 2021



D
Strongly against

C
Conditionally against

I
Inconclusive

B
Conditionally Recommend

A
Strongly recommended

We suggest chest X-ray follow-ups for patients with COVID-19 during the treatment course and after isolation treatment.

Chest CT using portable personal negative pressure isolation chamber (NPIC)

New Oct 2022



Expert consensus

We suggest utilizing the portable personal NPIC for patients at high risk of COVID-19 transmission who require a clinically necessary chest CT scan. This allows for the safe conduct of the chest CT examination in a CT room that lacks a negative pressure isolation system.

Clinical considerations:

COVID-19 is an infectious disease with a high risk of droplet transmission. Therefore, performing CT without preparation can cause contamination of the scan room, leading to secondary infection cases. Accordingly, using a negative-pressure chamber to isolate the patient from the outside environment is recommended for CT scans. Interference with X-ray penetration and degradation of CT image quality due to the use of a portable personal NPIC are determined to be at a level that would still allow CT images to be interpreted. More specific recommendations need on the confirmation of results from various studies, including different NPIC types used in clinical practice, the severity of the disease, and CT scan methods. However, even if used a NPIC, the other routine processes, including disinfection, cleaning, and ventilation, are essential before and after the CT examination.