Patient Instructions
COVID-19 Observed Nasal Swab Collection

During this process, you will use a swab to collect a sample from your nose for Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. A Cleveland Clinic Caregiver will observe you and can answer questions along the way.

Please review this instruction sheet while you wait.

1. Open the tube given to you by the Caregiver and set the cap down on your car’s dashboard.

2. Take the swab held by the Caregiver. Do not touch the tip of the swab.

3. Place the swab inside your nostril until the tip is no longer visible, then rub the inside of your nose three times in a circular motion. Use a mirror to help with Steps 3 & 4.

4. Repeat Step 3 using the same swab with your other nostril. Tightly screw the cap back on the tube so it does not leak.

5. Place the tip of the swab down into the tube.

6. Bend the swab against the top of the tube until the handle snaps at the swab’s breakpoint.

7. Tightly screw the cap back on the tube so it does not leak.

8. Place the tube into the bag held by the Caregiver.

Your test results will be available in MyChart within 72 hours.