



Spit-kits for Research: SickKids Saliva Testing Research

SickKids[®]

Optional Research Components

If you test **positive** for
Influenza, RSV or
COVID-19, you will have
the option to
participate in research.

**This is voluntary
and you don't
have to
participate if you
don't want to.**

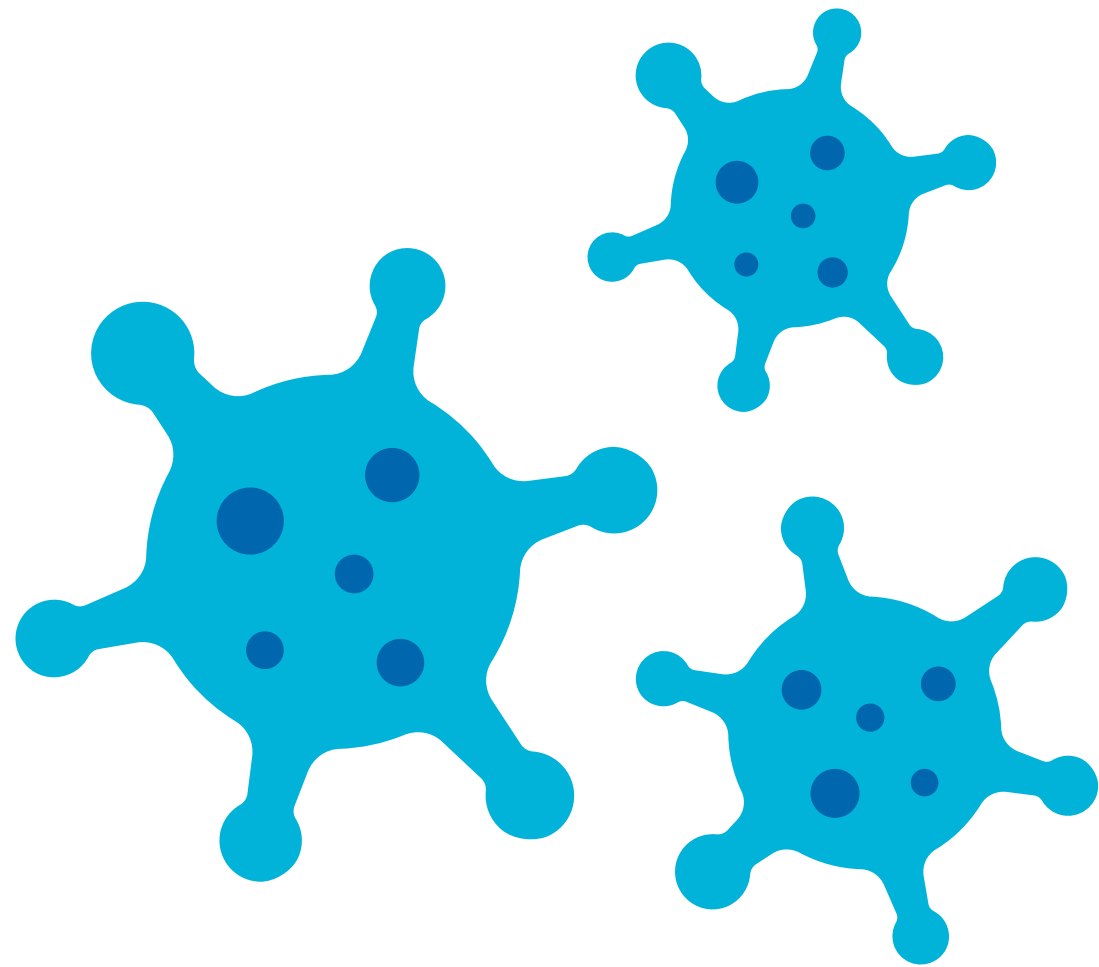
What is SickKids studying?

- SickKids is interested in how the amount of virus changes over the course of infection, specifically RSV, influenza, and COVID-19 and how these infections spread in households and schools.

What previous research has been done on this topic?

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- SickKids previously studied how long children remained infectious (contagious) with COVID-19 between February and March 2022
 - The study found that many children were likely non-contagious the day after their symptoms had gone away
 - This information helped support the decision to shorten the time children had to isolate and stay home from school
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SickKids is working with Public Health to better understand:



- 1) How the amount of virus changes over the course of infection

- 2) How infections spread in households, and

- 3) How infections spread in classrooms and how often children have these infections even when they don't feel sick.

Who can participate?

All research is optional.

All research samples are anonymous and all personal information is removed.

You can choose whether you would like the results of your sample.

Doing a clinical test does not require you to participate in research.

- 1) Individuals who test positive for influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 have the option to do a daily saliva test for 10 days

- 2) Individuals who test positive for influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 have the option to have their households complete a one-time saliva test

- 3) Classrooms may receive research kits. If your child's class is given a research kit, they have the option to complete a one-time saliva test

**A child in your household
received a research kit from
school - now what?**

Classroom testing: What to know

- Your child received this Spit-kit because their class was chosen for testing
- Classes will be chosen throughout the school year so that we can see how often children have these infections even when they don't have symptoms.
- All participation is voluntary, and you and your child can decide whether or not to return the sample
- Your child is being asked to provide a one-time saliva sample
- This will be tested at a later date for respiratory infections. There will be no human genetic testing done on the specimen.
- You and your child have the option whether you would like to know the results of the research sample

Classroom testing: What to do

1) **You and your child can decide whether you would like to submit a research sample**

- If no, we ask you please return the unused kit to the 'Unused Saliva Kit' bin in your child's classroom

2) **If you would like to submit a research sample, you and your child can decide if you would like to know the results of the research sample**

- Results are not shared with the school, public health, or with your doctor. The results are yours to decide whether you want to receive and/or share them.
- Results will take longer than standard processing times

Classroom testing: What to do

- 3) **Fill in the label and requisition form included based off the option you choose**
 - If you would like the results of the sample, fill in the child's name and contact information on the requisition form. This is to notify you of the result
 - These details will be removed from the research sample after notifying you
- 4) **Drop off your completed research sample at the 'Saliva Kit Dropoff' station at your school**

If you would like to submit a research saliva test, there are two options:

OPTION 1 Research sample – no results	OPTION 2 Research sample -results provided
Any personal details will be removed from the information collected.	
This option is if you want to submit a research sample and do not want your test results. Please be aware we will be unable to obtain your results after your sample submission if you decide later you would like your results. As there will be no identifying information on the test, we cannot find your test after submitting your anonymous sample.	This option is if you want to submit a research sample and receive the results of your test. Your name and contact information are used to inform you of your test results. Please be aware the processing time for tests will be longer than the standard timeframe of 48 hours.
Requisition	
Fill out Section 1 and Section 2 only.	Please complete all sections of your lab requisition and provide an email and phone number. The contact information will be used to provide results. Please select the preferred method of contact.
Labeling Sample	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your label will have your classroom # pre-filled.• Write your age (in years) and check off (✓) your legal sex and the date you're collecting your sample.• The information on your label should match the information on your requisition.• Stick your completed label on your saliva collection container.	

Lab requisition: Classroom

All participants to fill out these sections

Study title: Viral Dynamics of Influenza, RSV and SARS-CoV-2 in children and Secondary Transmission within Households and Schools		
SickKids THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN	MICROBIOLOGY- LABORATORY 555 University Avenue Room 3508, Atrium Toronto, ON, M5G 1X8, Canada school.salivaresearch@sickkids.ca Fax: 416-813-5413	
THIS IS A RESEARCH SAMPLE. This requisition is for research purposes. The processing time for results will be longer than the standard timeframe.		
SICKKIDS SALIVA TESTING PROGRAM RESEARCH RESPIRATORY VIRAL PCR		
<p style="text-align: center;">Instructions:</p> <p>Select the appropriate option by filling out the required fields.</p> <p>Ensure that all information is complete and accurate.</p> <p>Submit the completed requisition with your research sample.</p>		
Option 1: Research sample - no test results <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fill out Section 1 and Section 2	Option 2: Research sample with test results <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fill out all sectionsYour name and contact information are used to inform you of your test results	
Section 1 – Fill out details below		
School Name: _____ _____	Patient Setting: CLASSROOM Classroom #: _____	Group (Check box): <input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Staff
Age (in years): _____	Legal Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> No symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> Symptomatic (specify symptoms): _____ _____		If yes to symptomatic: Date of onset of first symptom (dd/mm/yyyy): _____ _____
Section 2 – Specimen Collection Information		
Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____	Time (hh:mm): _____(AM/PM)	Specimen Type: Saliva
Section 3 - Participant information for result disclosure		
Personal details will be removed from the research sample after results have been disclosed.		
ALL SECTIONS MUST BE FILLED IN CLEARLY to receive result disclosure		
Last Name: []		
Middle Name: [][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][]		
First Name: [][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][][]		
Email Address: _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer to receive test results over email	Telephone Number: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer to receive test results over phone Preferred time to contact: <input type="checkbox"/> 9am-12pm <input type="checkbox"/> 12pm-4pm <input type="checkbox"/> After 4pm	
Disclaimer By providing your email address you agree to be emailed by SickKids Hospital if your sample cannot be processed or to receive your result.		
Version: (23 August 2024)		

**Option 2 only -
Participant
information for
result disclosure**

Individual & Household testing

If your child tests positive, and you're interested in the individual and household testing components, our research team will provide more details and coordinate kit drop-off with you

What are the benefits of participating in this research?

Your participation may contribute to the advancement of knowledge.

The information we learn may help us better understand how long children are infectious with these viruses and how they spread. Informed decisions come from good data, which may help inform public health and prevent the spread of these viruses in the future.

Participants will receive a small token of appreciation in the form of a gift card for individual and household testing. Children participants for individual and household testing will also be given volunteer hours and given a certificate of participation. Participating classrooms will be entered into a raffle for a celebratory experience approved by their school leadership.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is the test mandatory?**
 - No. Testing is voluntary.
- **Do I need to stay at home if I do a test?**
 - Whether you complete a test or not, follow your school's policies and public health guidance for any symptoms you are experiencing.
- **What if I test positive?**
 - Your test result does not indicate whether you should stay at home from school or work.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **If I complete a test does that mean I need to do research?**
 - No. A clinical test and a research test are separate. If you complete a clinical test, it will be treated like a regular test that is done at your doctor's office or the hospital. Research tests will be labelled as research tests and are completely optional.
- **How accurate is the saliva test?**
 - Similar accuracy to nasopharyngeal swab.

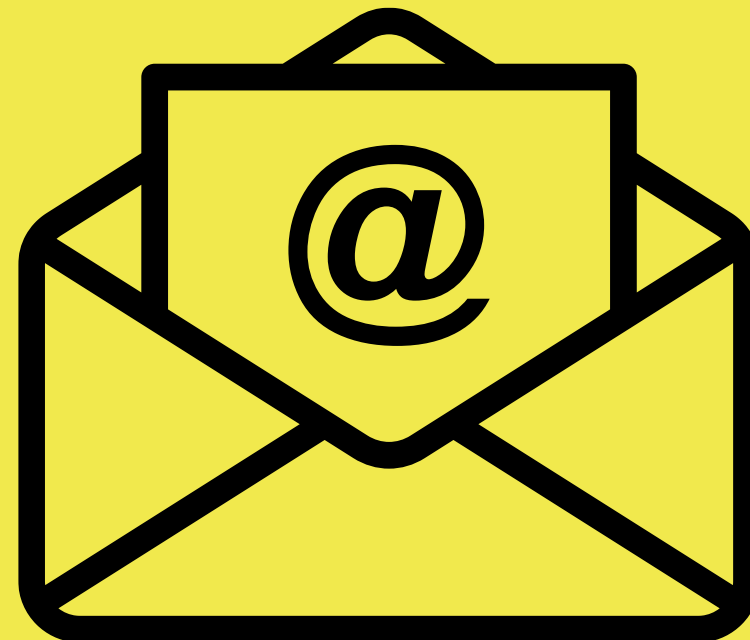
Frequently Asked Questions

- **Where will the drop off bin be located?**
 - Drop-off locations will be school-specific. It is typically recommended to be inside the front entrance and/or foyer for easy access. Check your school communication materials to see where your school's drop-off location is.
- **Whose responsibility is it to ensure the lab requisition and specimen label is completed correctly?**
 - The parent/guardian/household member and/or individual completing the test is responsible for ensuring the correct completion of the lab requisition and specimen label.
 - For clinical samples, information must be complete and legally accurate. Preferred names cannot be accepted at this time.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What if I drop the sample off after samples have been picked up?**
 - The sample will be delivered with the next day's pick-up.
 - If you come to drop off a sample on Friday after the courier has picked up samples, we ask you to keep your sample in the fridge over the weekend and drop it off on Monday before courier pick-up. This is to make sure the sample temperature remains stable over the weekend.

Research Questions?



Reach out to us via email: school.salivaresearch@sickkids.ca