Governments and healthcare professionals should take into account a broad range of factors when choosing the most appropriate test for a given situation. The selection of the appropriate test also depends on the respective question one wants to answer.

**Factor 1 – Disease stage**

Different healthcare settings require different instruments and tests.

### Acute infection

- **RT-PCR or antigen tests**
- **Easy to perform, with very fast results.**
- **Detect certain proteins of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.**
- **Antigen tests are usually highly automated and designed to process large numbers of patient samples.**
- **Antigen test to detect SARS-CoV-2**
- **PCR likely positive**
- **Antigen likely positive**
- **Antigen likely negative**
- **Antigen likely negative**

### Past infection

- **Antibody tests**
- **Presence of viral antibodies to the virus**
- **Antibody tests measure the body’s immune response to SARS-CoV-2 antigens, for instance, through tests that measure levels of antibodies (quantitative testing) and providing a yes/no result (qualitative testing).**
- **Antibody detection**
- **Antibody test targeting antibodies against the nucleocapsid protein**
- **Antibody test targeting antibodies against the spike protein**
- **PCR likely negative**
- **PCR likely negative**

**Factor 2 – Testing location**

Different testing modalities require different modalities and tools.

### Near-patient or Point of Care (PoC) instruments in labs

- **Tests for high-volume, with shorter time to test results, helping expedite clinical decision making. They can be used in settings around the world.**
- **Testing types provided by Roche**
- **First-line diagnostics portfolio.**
- **Meeting the testing needs across the healthcare continuum requires a broad diagnostics portfolio.**
- **Testing of asymptomatic individuals to potentially guide treatment**
- **Managing exposed individuals to potentially guide treatment**

**Factor 3 – Testing purpose**

The selection of the appropriate test also depends on the question one wants to answer.

### Disease management

- **Antigen test to detect SARS-CoV-2**
- **PCR test to detect SARS-CoV-2**

### expand access to testing

- **Help facilitate contact tracing**
- **Supporting the development of vaccines and healthcare industry**
- **Helping with the development of treatments**
- **Identifying recovering patients who could potentially be serum and plasma donors**
- **Understanding disease prevalence in order for developing treatments for COVID-19**
- **Identifying community-based outbreaks and small testing needs in remote areas around the world.**
- **Testing facilities like doctors’ offices, hospitals, and health institutions**
- **Testing of asymptomatic individuals to potentially guide treatment**
- **Testing exposed individuals to potentially guide treatment**
- **Antibody test targeting antibodies against the nucleocapsid protein**
- **Antibody test targeting antibodies against the spike protein**
- **PCR likely negative**
- **Antigen likely negative**
- **Antigen likely positive**
- **Antigen likely positive**

### Testing types provided by Roche

Meeting the testing needs across the healthcare continuum requires a broad SARS-CoV-2 diagnostics portfolio.