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What You Need To Know About The Screening And Testing For COVID-19

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What is screening/Testing?



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SCREENING

A way for health workers to find out if you may have COVID-19 or not

Questions asked:

- Have you travelled to a high risk country in last 14 days?
- Have you been in contact with a COVID-19 positive person in the last 14 days?
- Any fever, cough or shortness of breath?

What is done:

- Scanning of forehead to take temperature

Symptoms for COVID-19

If travelled to a high risk country or been in contact with COVID-19+ individual

Self-isolate for 14 days, monitor your symptoms

TESTING

A process whereby a sample is taken from a patient and run in the lab to identify infection

Criteria:

- Symptom severity and risk factors
- Healthcare workers
 - Over 55 years
 - Comorbidities

What is done:

- The sample is subjected to PCR to detect viral DNA

Quarantined for 14 days, monitor your symptoms, rest and hydrate

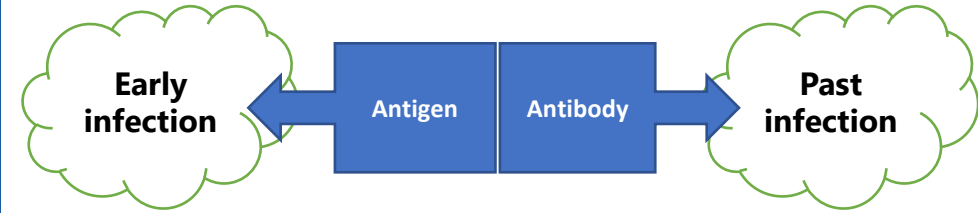
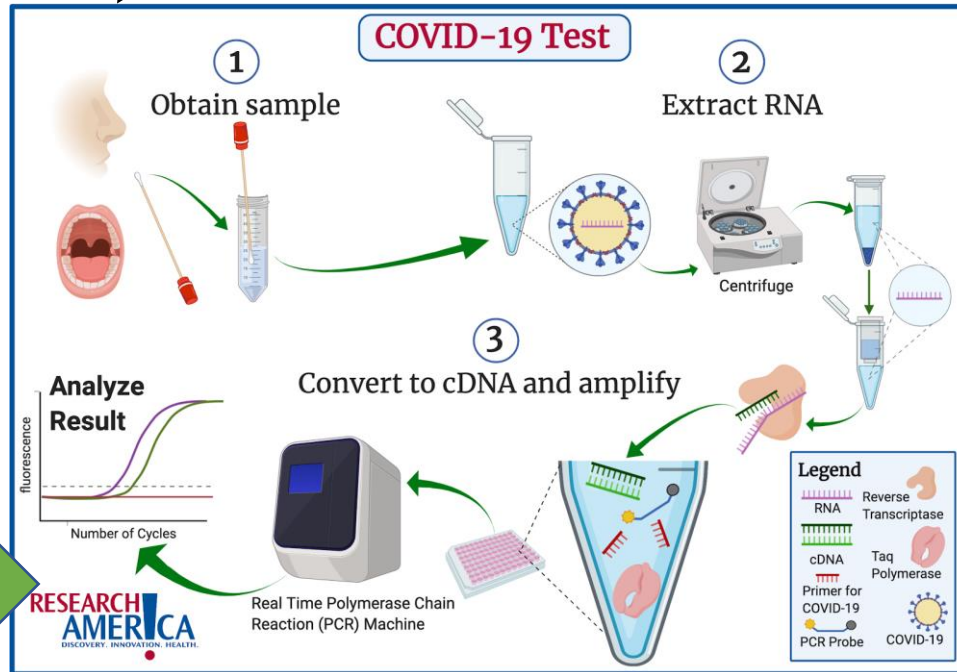
COVID-19+

Testing – platforms



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Current infection



Molecular (PCR) test

Serology (Ab/Ag) test

1 Collecting of Sample

For the test, 10 µl of whole blood, plasma or serum is used. Collect the blood sample obtained by venipuncture into blood collection tube or use fingertip blood.



2 Adding of Sample

Add the collected serum/plasma/whole blood to the sample well of the test cassette.



3 Dropping of Sample buffer

Add 3 drops (90µl) of sample into the sample well of the test cassette.



4 Reading Test result

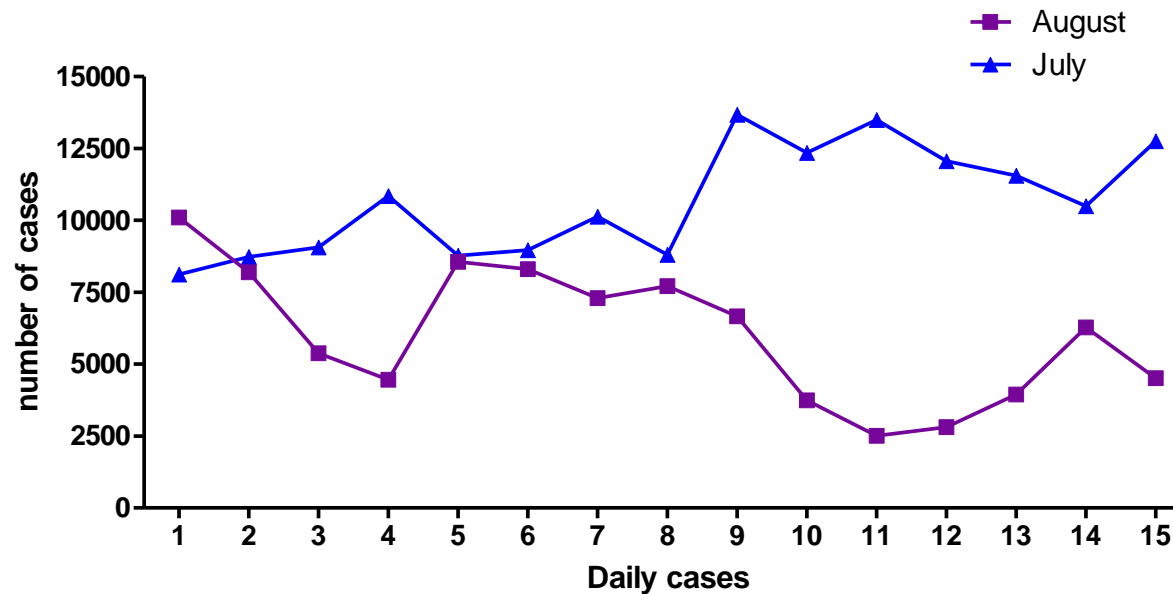
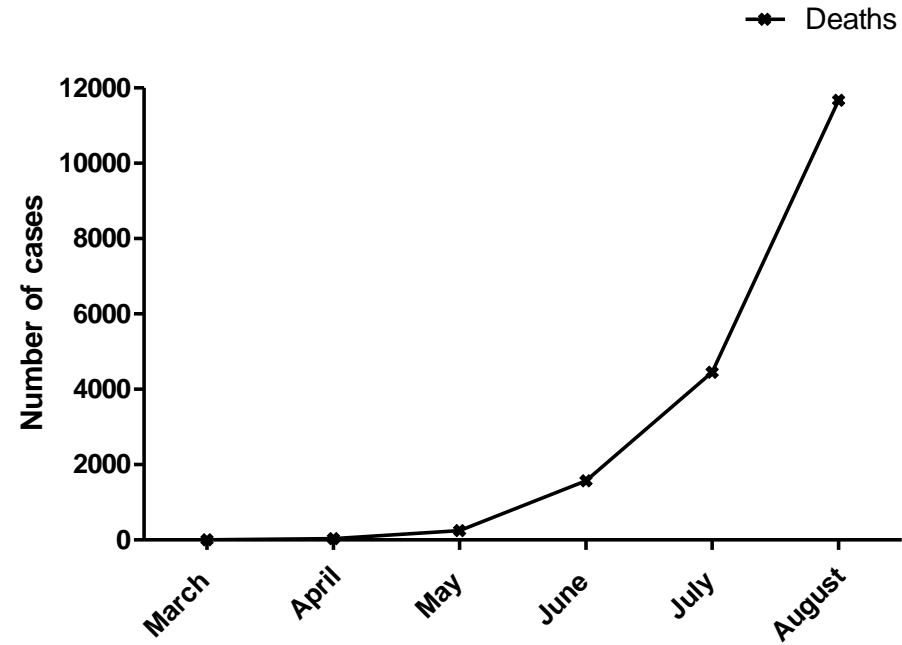
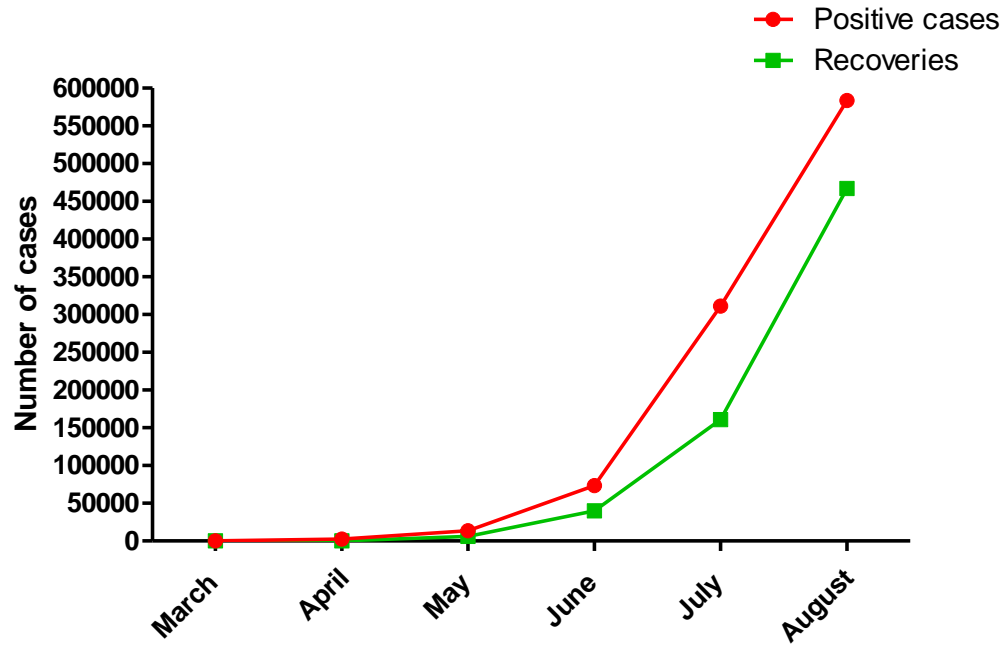
Read test result at 10–15 minutes.



COVID-19 statistics to date



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Debate



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- ❖ Are there enough test kits to test everyone in South Africa for COVID-19?
- ❖ Can the government afford to embark on massive community testing?
- ❖ Are the daily case reports on the decline in South Africa?
- ❖ Are the daily mortality rates on the plateau?

References



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