



COVID-19 Surface Swab Kit Instructions

This procedure is designed to sample surfaces for potential target organisms from a non-biotic environment. Please carefully read the entire procedure and handle with care.

Background

Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stable for up to 9 days on ambient surfaces, and may be active up to 28 days on surfaces at refrigerated temperatures (4°C) depending on conditions such as humidity and surface type. The active virus is shed by infected people through nasal and oral as well as fecal shedding. Research has shown that people may acquire the virus via aerosols and after touching contaminated objects.

Applications for the Test Kit

The IEH COVID-19 Detection Kit can be used as an early warning system by swabbing surfaces in high-touch areas of facilities where people are working. It should also be used to validate cleaning and sanitation protocols for following a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 infection among employees. Potential uses include but are not limited to surface testing of all different types (all metals, plastics, rubber, laminate, wood, corrugate, porcelain, etc.).

- Food Production & Distribution – surfaces in high-touch areas including breakrooms, restrooms, door handles, keypads, timeclocks, shared equipment such as hand-held scanners, high-touch surfaces on production or packaging lines.
- Retail and Foodservice – high-touch areas such as door handles, shopping carts and baskets, counters, registers, hand-held scanners, payment keypads, restrooms and employee breakrooms.
- Medical and Care Facilities – waiting rooms, cafeterias, counters, nurse stations, keyboards, restrooms, doorknobs, service trays, wheelchairs, and areas and equipment that can be contaminated via aerosols (coughing and sneezing) including respiratory equipment, air intake vents, beds, chairs, tray tables, etc.
- Educational & Recreational Facilities – surfaces in high-touch areas such as desks, chairs, gym equipment, floor mats, locker rooms, restrooms, staff breakrooms, cafeterias.
- Lodging & Hospitality – Check-in counters, food service areas, conference rooms, lounges, business centers, service carts and trays, cleaning equipment, and high-touch areas such as doorknobs, elevators, keycards, restrooms, remote controls, bedside tables, headboards, luggage racks.
- Offices – commonly used areas and areas where infected persons have been including front desks, restrooms, breakrooms, conference rooms, shared equipment (printers, keyboards).