

What does “Negative/Positive” mean?

Test Negative

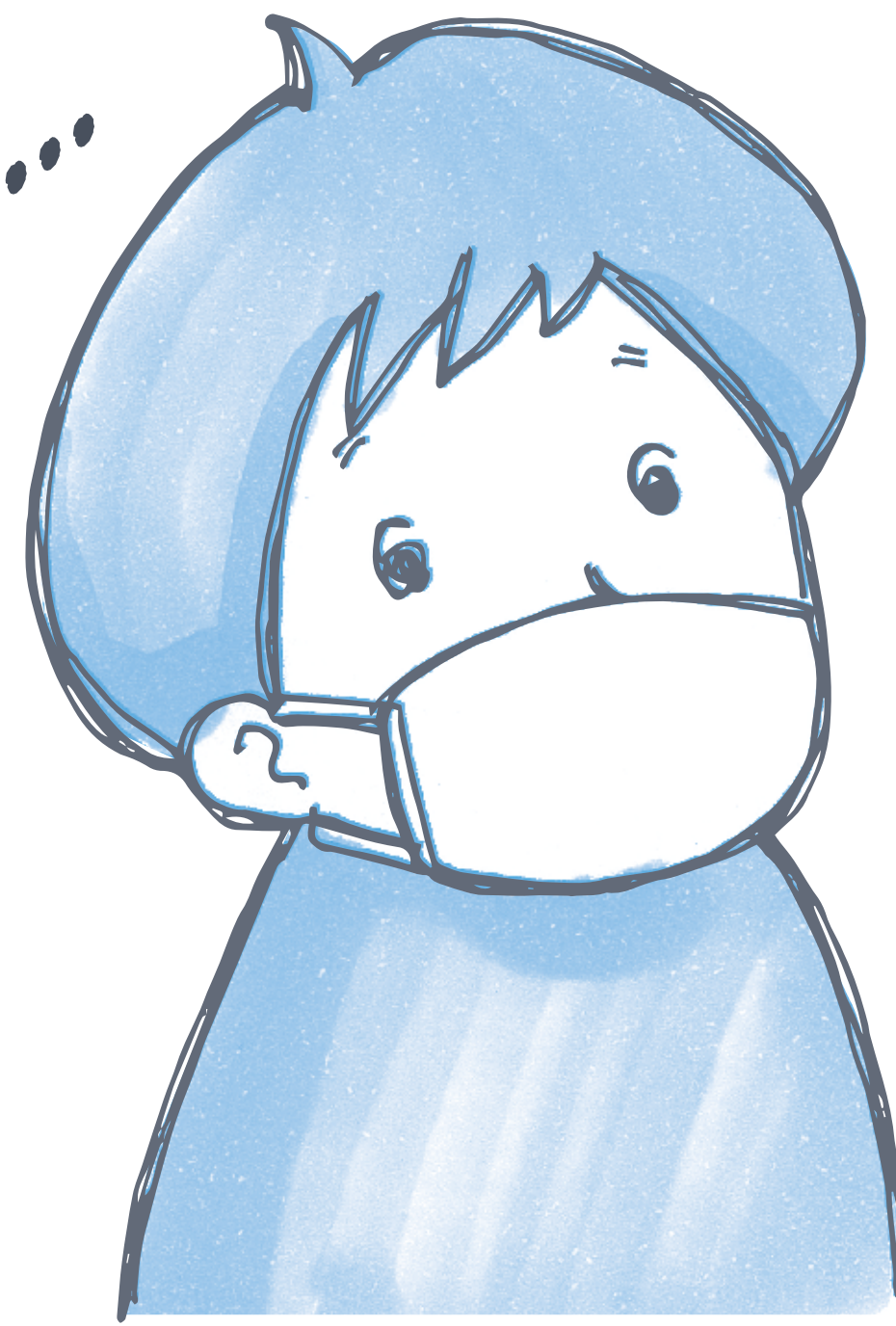


Result of my test for COVID-19 was **Negative**.
Phew, what a relief!!

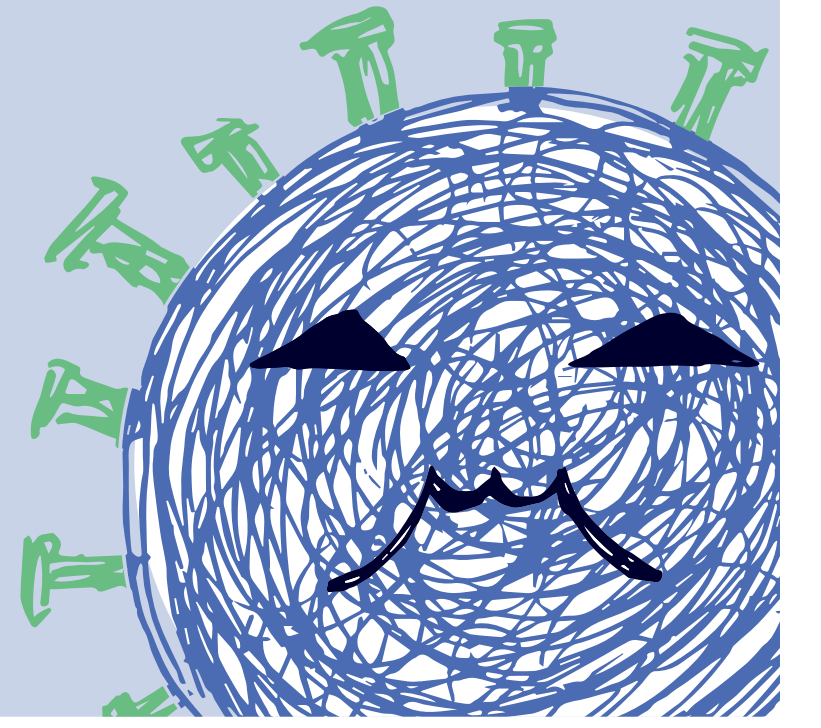
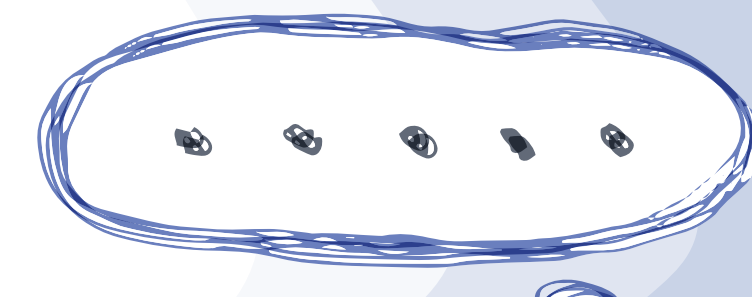
Relieved



Wait...



But,,, Is this really right??



What is a virus or bacteria test?

How do we detect if there are virus or bacteria that are too small to see in the body? What does “Negative” or “Positive” mean? There are various inspection methods, let’s take a look at a novel coronavirus test as an example!!

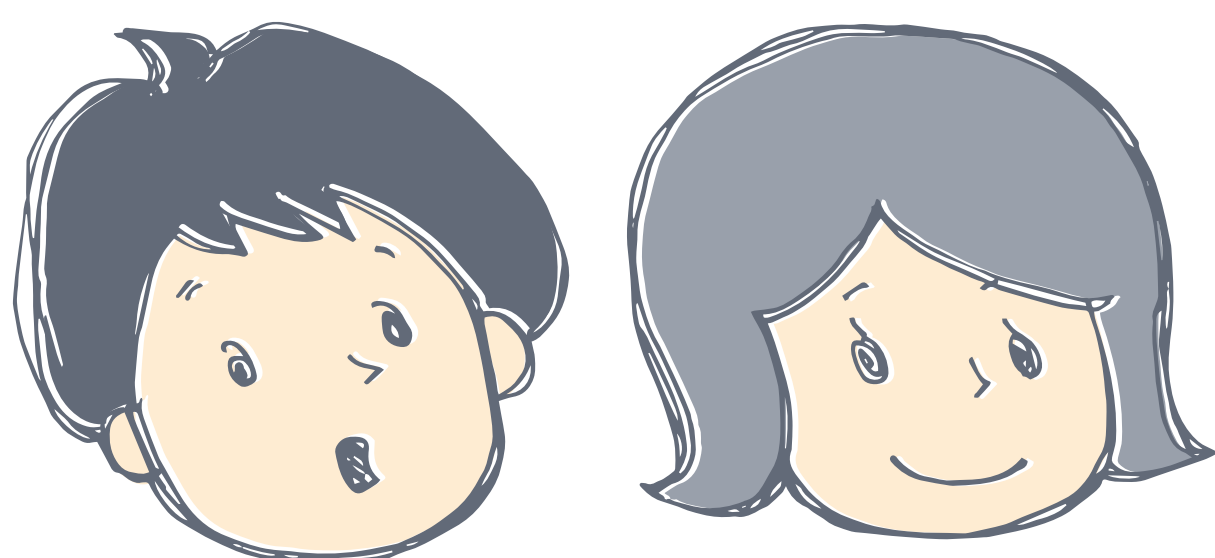
If “test negative”, is that okay?

Inspection methods are more advanced, but there is still no “Perfect” test.

Every test has its limitations. For example, in the case when it is really difficult to take a sample from the place where a lot of viruses were expected. Or, if there is a low level of virus, it is also hard to detect. With these difficulties, people may not be able to detect viruses even if they stay somewhere in the body.

Test negative doesn't mean I am free of the virus...

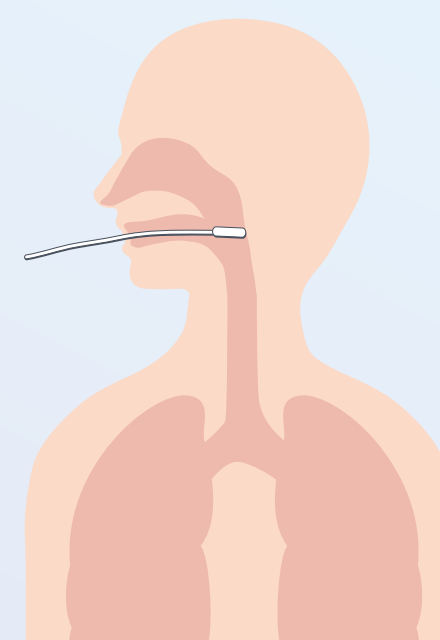
No test is perfect.



How to test for novel coronavirus

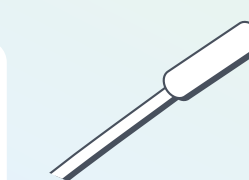
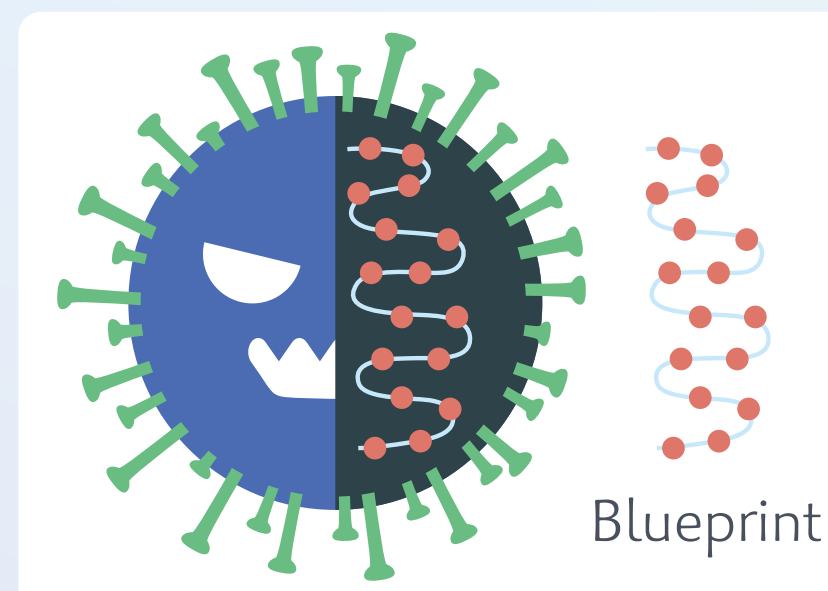
1st: Take samples.

There are antibody tests, PCR tests, or diagnosis using lung CT images, etc.. This section describes the PCR test method.



Wiping the back of the throat or nose, or take sputum.

2nd: Detect if a virus is present in the sample.

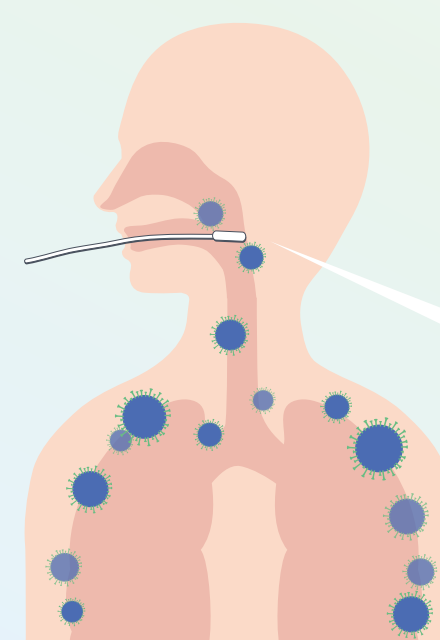


Take sputum, or a throat swab from the back of the throat or nose.

Retrieve the blueprint.

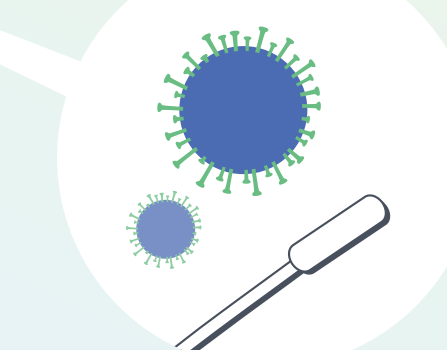
Increase the number of the blueprint to make it easier to find.
(Only the blueprint of novel coronavirus)

3rd: Consider the results.

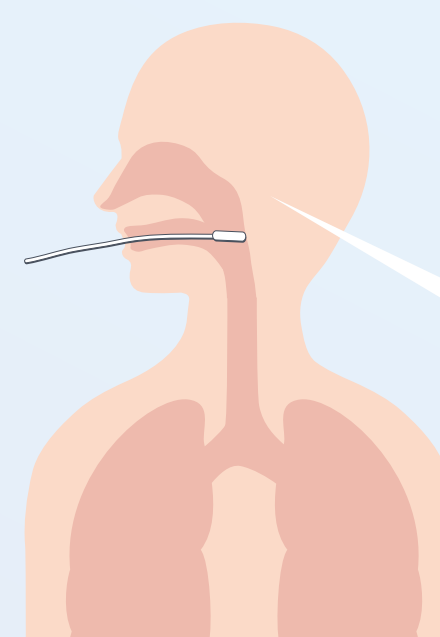


Test positive

Virus Detected!!

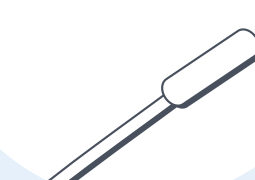


Test positive does not mean “it's alright”, rather it means “there is a virus”!!

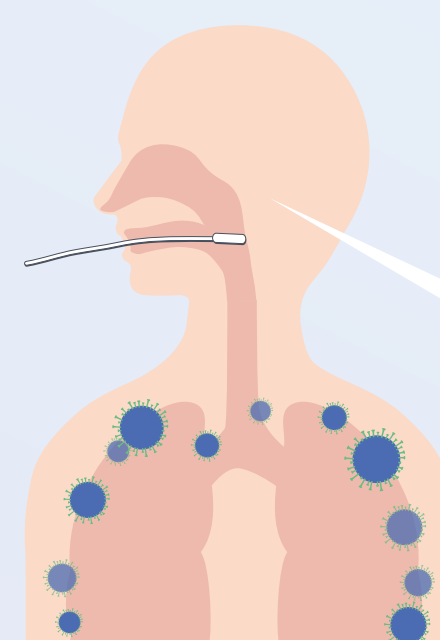


Test negative

Virus Not Detected

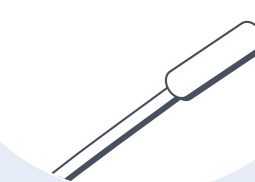


There was no virus.



Test negative

Virus Not Detected



Why does a test result in a negative yet the virus is in the body?

There is virus in the lungs but the test could not detect it.
(It's difficult to detect viruses in the lungs)

What is the test for?

There is no perfect test, but tests can give us clues as to how the infection spreads, which people are more likely to become infected, and the strength of the infection. Thinking and acting on the results of the test while understanding

the characteristics and limitations of the test will lead to a future where even one person can save many lives. New infectious diseases will continue to appear. So, why don't we work together on how to deal with infectious diseases?