



NM MEDICAL



## SARS Covid Antigen spot Test for immediate results

- ✓ Point of care Test
- ✓ Naso- pharyngeal swab Test
- ✓ Results in one hour
- ✓ High specificity but low sensitivity
- ✓ Negative result needs to be confirmed by gold standard RT PCR in symptomatic patients
- ✓ Point of care Covid Antigen tests can be used in containment zones, hot spots, pre surgical procedures, dental treatment, unplanned labour, and interventional procedures like endoscopy & dialysis

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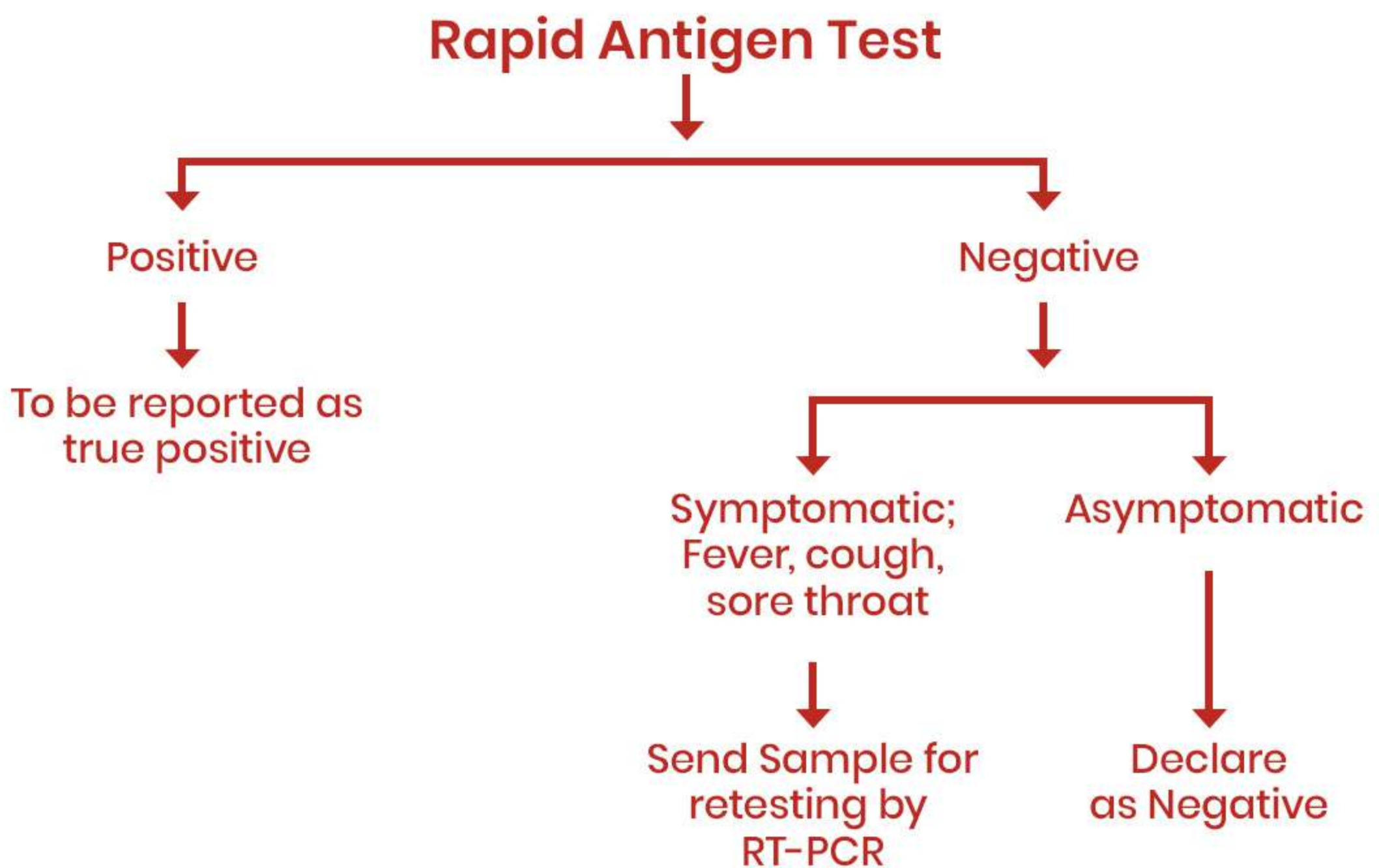
## COVID Antigen Testing

- ① An Antigen is a foreign molecule that induces an immune response in the body and detecting its presence determines a present infection.
- ① Currently conducted on SD Biosensor ICMR approved kits.
- ① Point of care test – as sample needs to be processed in max one hour of collection.
- ① Home collection is not possible as the sample need to be processed in an hour of collection.
- ① Eligibility for testing is same as for RT PCR test.
- ① It is a naso-pharyngeal swab test like an RT PCR that detects current infection in symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.
- ① Selection of Antigen test primarily depends on how quickly the results are required. Results are available in half an hour as compared to RT PCR which takes anywhere between 6 to 24 hours.
- ① Specificity is as high as 99.3 to 100%, so a positive antigen test need not be reconfirmed with RT PCR.
- ① Sensitivity is poor – 50.6% to 84% – and a negative test result in a symptomatic patient needs to be reconfirmed on gold standard RT PCR to rule out active infection.
- ① If there is time in hand it is better to do RT-PCR because if an antigen test is negative, one has to repeat the test through RT PCR.



## COVID Antigen Testing

- ① Point of care Covid Antigen tests can be used for containment zones, hot spots and hospitals.
- ② The test is also allowed for asymptomatic patients undergoing surgical procedures, dental treatment, and interventional procedures like endoscopy and dialysis.



- ③ All Positive and negative results should be entered into the ICMR portal on a real time basis after performing the antigen test
- ④ Results of samples subjected to RT-PCR should be entered after the RT-PCR results are available