

Immunodeficiencies & COVID-19

Do immunodeficiencies affect the accuracy of COVID-19 testing?

- **No.** The current nasal swab test for COVID-19 measures the presence of the coronavirus nucleic acids, not the human response towards the virus.

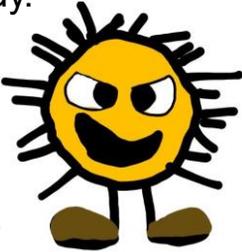
Are people with immunodeficiencies more likely to catch COVID-19?

- We are **not sure yet**. Nevertheless, a [study](#) from China showed that only 2 out of 1099 COVID-19 patients had immunodeficiencies.

Do people who lack antibodies do worse if they catch COVID-19?

- **No.** Preliminary data showed that in the 6 people who have both antibody disorders and COVID-19, only 1 got severe disease for COVID-19. This **risk is similar to that of the general population**.
- People who cannot make antibodies will likely **not develop immunity**.

Do people with T-cell immunodeficiencies do worse if they catch COVID-19?

- **T-cells are very important in clearing virus infections** in the body.
 - COVID-19 is an infection by the “SARS-CoV-2” coronavirus.
 - Individuals (including those with 22q11.2 differences) who have T-cell immunodeficiencies **may have difficulty clearing coronavirus infections. They should avoid catching COVID-19.**
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- Stay home, stay 6 feet away from others, wash hands properly and frequently, and avoid touching the face.
 - Have enough food, necessities, and medications at home for at least 2 weeks.
 - **Do not change/stop medications** unless your doctor advises you to do so.
 - If you become sick, tell medical personnel about your immunodeficiency.

Please contact the Immunodeficiency Foundation (IDF) if you have an immunodeficiency and you catch COVID-19. This lets researchers gather data to understand the risks of COVID-19 in people with immunodeficiencies.