

## MEMO

**RE:** Implications of incorporating Over the Counter (OTC) tests into K-12 and summer camp testing programs

**TO:** K-12 schools and summer camps enrolled in a Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) testing program

**DATE:** May 18, 2022

Testing Program Partners,

For schools and camps that are interested in the OTC testing option, please be aware that people who test positive on an OTC test, because the results are not reported to KDHE or the local health department, are not "counted" as a case unless that person has a follow-up diagnostic test that is observed or administered by a health care worker either at the school or camp offering testing or any other provider. For example, if a student tests positive on an OTC test, the school or camp can treat them as a case and ask them to stay at home, but these test results are not reportable to KDHE or the local health department.

The implication for positive cases who test using an OTC test if they are exposed again:

- There will be no record with KDHE or the local health department that they had COVID-19 infection.
- When people are positive on a test that is observed or administered by a health care worker, their result is reported to KDHE. If those people are re-exposed within 90 days, they do not have to quarantine as long as they don't experience symptoms because they are presumed to be immune from the previous infection. However, for people who are positive on an OTC test, if they are re-exposed, they will have to either quarantine or participate in a Test to Stay program because there is no record of their result at KDHE or the local health department.

Options to avoid quarantine after re-exposure within the 90 days:

- After a positive OTC test result, have a confirmatory diagnostic test performed at either the school or other health care provider.
- Get vaccinated! People who are [up to date](#) on COVID-19 vaccinations do not need to quarantine at home unless they develop symptoms after COVID-19 exposure.

For question, please email [sarah.allin@ks.gov](mailto:sarah.allin@ks.gov)

Thank you for your continued dedication,



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