

Associated Pediatric Partners (APP) is proud to announce that we are now able to do in-office PCR testing for strep, flu, RSV and COVID-19. We are one of the first 5 private practices in the entire state to have the ability to run our own COVID PCR tests in the office to give you results usually the same day, but never more than 24 hours.

PCR testing is the gold standard for infection testing as it has NO false positives and is extraordinarily sensitive at picking up even early infections. For strep throat testing, the system is so accurate that we will no longer need to send confirmatory overnight throat cultures. Rather we will be able to give your child a definitive yes or no as to whether they have strep in about half an hour.

For influenza and RSV testing the system is nearly 100% accurate in detecting these viruses and for COVID-19 it is the best system available in the US with a 98.9% sensitivity rate and no false positives. The test we are using tests for COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, and RSV all at the same time. This is the only PCR test available for in-office testing currently. Fortunately, the test is still comparable in price to hospital-based PCR testing for just COVID-19 alone.

To begin with, we can only offer this test to children with COVID suspicious symptoms, but as availability increases, we will hopefully be able to also test those who have been exposed and may need testing.

Many acute care clinics are using much less reliable antigen testing AND charging 3-4 x their cost to attempt to make a profit off the pandemic. Here at APP, our only desire is rapid and accurate testing of our patients, so that they can protect their families if they are positive and return to school more quickly if they are negative. Therefore, our charge for the testing is only intended to cover our costs.

Fortunately, most insurance companies including Medicaid cover in-office PCR testing. However, if your insurance company does not cover the test, or it is applied to your deductible, please understand that you will be responsible for the cost of testing. For those whose insurance does not cover the test, we will still have the Northshore PCR and strep test option which will take 2-3 days to result.

Please call our office for pricing.