



Which test is best:

Rapid antigen and PCR tests for COVID-19 and flu

	Rapid Antigen	PCR
Can I take it at home?	Yes	No, ask for it at your doctor's office, pharmacy or testing site
When is it most accurate?	When you have symptoms	As early as before you have symptoms, and through symptoms
When is it least accurate?	When you don't have symptoms	Later in an infection (<i>Because it detects small amounts of virus, you could keep testing positive for up to 90 days.</i>)
How many times do I take it?	Use multiple tests over a few days, especially if you don't have symptoms	Once
When can I get results?	15 to 20 minutes <i>(Flu tests take longer because you mail in a sample)</i>	15 minutes to 24 hours <i>(Rapid PCR tests turnaround in less time)</i>
Can I use it for flu as well as COVID?	Yes, but as of now, for flu the sample must go to a lab	Yes, there's a combined test