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DIAGNOSTICS & TREATMENT OF COVID-19

DIAGNOSTIC COMPARISON

PCR is the benchmark method for the diagnostic of COVID-19.

	rRT-PCR	Chest CT Scan	Serology Test
Type	Screening Test	Screening Test for pneumonia	Confirmation Test
Duration	Hours to 2 days ¹	Less than a hour ²	15 minutes ³
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC recommended⁴ • Longer testing time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not as accurate as rRT-PCR • Should not be used as a screening test to diagnose COVID-19⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More convenient • Can only be used 7-14 days after the onset of the infection⁶

TREATMENT

There are no specific antiviral medications approved for COVID-19.

MILD SYMPTOMS	SEVERE SYMPTOMS
COLD MEDICATION	OXYGEN TREATMENT
DRINKING FLUIDS	IV FLUID
RESTING	BREATHING SUPPORT

HERBAL MEDICINES MAY HAVE HELPED REDUCE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS TO PATIENTS IN CHINA.⁷

1. CDC. COVID-19 Testing at Laboratories FAQs. 2020, Mar. 10. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/testing-laboratories.html>
 2. St. Michael's Hospital. Medical Imaging. <http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/programs/imaging/ctscan/faq.php>
 3. Journal of Medical Virology, 2020, Feb 27, doi: 10.1002/jmv.25727
 4. CDC. Testing for COVID-19. 2020, Mar. 21. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>
 5. American College of Radiology, 2020, Mar. 22, <https://www.acr.org/Advocacy-and-Economics/ACR-Position-Statements/Recommendations-for-Chest-Radiography-and-CT-for-Suspected-COVID19-Infection>
 6. Tages Anzeiger, 2020, March 28, Jetzt beginnt die Suche nach den Genesenen, <https://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/jetzt-beginnt-die-suche-nach-den-genesenen-805626443803>
 7. Chinese Journal of Integrative Medicine, 2020, Feb 17, doi.org/10.1007/s11655-020-3192-6