

Antigen Tests – 1

DM/

9/11 HOLD for week of 9/14

Arkansans with symptoms of COVID-19 may be able to get test results more quickly. This week, the Arkansas Department of Health expects a shipment of almost 13,000 individual antigen tests. The department's Deputy Director of Administration, Don Adams says the antigen tests can deliver results in less than 30 minutes.

NEWS20 0:16 "... have COVID-like symptoms."

Adams says, the risk of a false negative is significant enough that those who test negative with the antigen test are recommended to follow up with a PCR test. The state plans to distribute the 200 rapid-response testing machines to local health units and schools and universities across the state.

Antigen Tests – 2

DM/

9/11 HOLD for week of 9/14

Machines able to provide results for COVID-19 tests in less than half an hour are being delivered around the state by the Arkansas Department of Health. Later this week, ADH expects to have the supplies needed to test nearly 13,000 Arkansans with antigen tests. Don Adams, with the department of health, says the state received 200 testing machines, but is still waiting on the test kits.

NEWS21 0:19 "... not as available."

The antigen tests, which are less accurate than PCR tests, are being reserved for patients with symptoms of COVID-19. At least 18 school districts have reported 5 or more positive cases of COVID-19 since August 15<sup>th</sup>, according to the department of health.