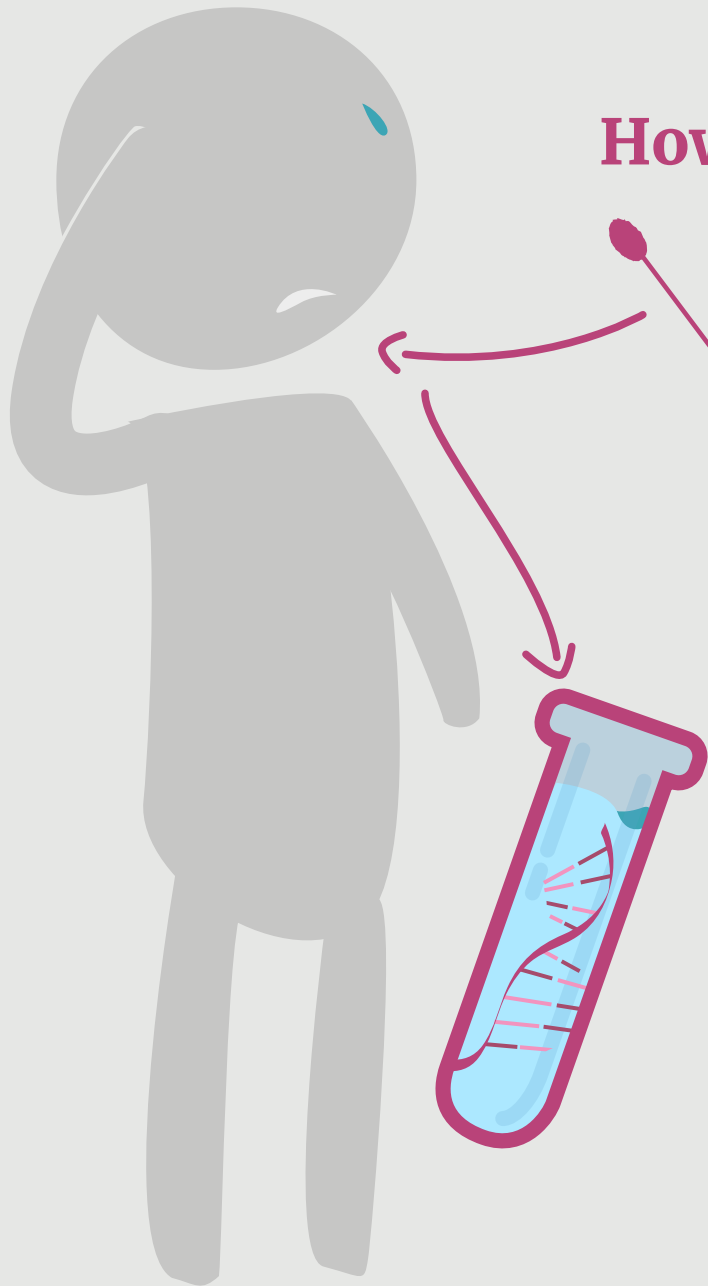


PCR testing for COVID-19



How does the test work?

Swabs from the nose and throat...

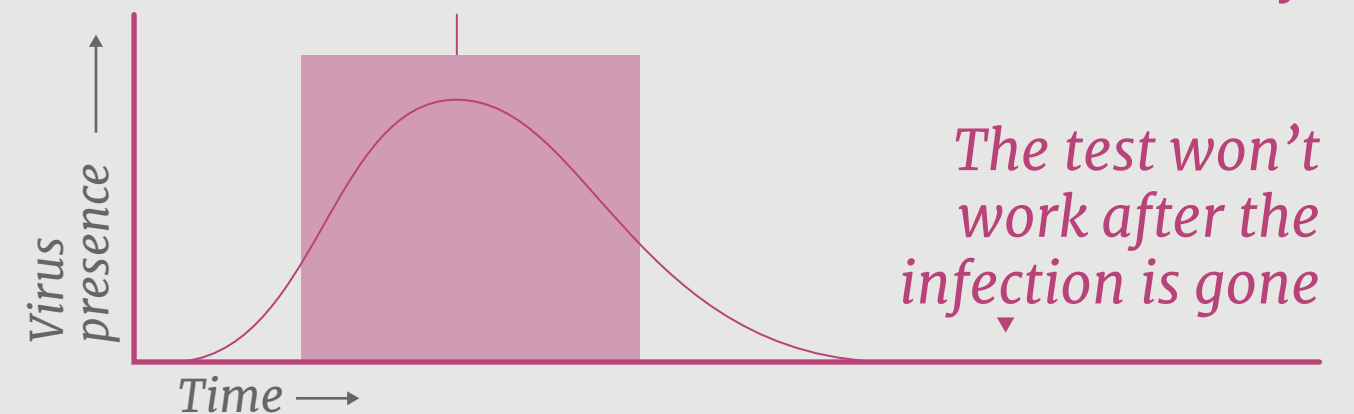
...are used in a lab test to identify the presence of SARS-CoV-2 **genetic material**.

What does the test tell us?

Who **currently** has an infection, but nothing about someone's immune response.

When is the test used?

When someone has symptoms to detect an active infection when the virus is in the body.



How accurate is it?

PCR is an established technique providing a very sensitive test with high accuracy. False negative results are possible if the swab doesn't pick up enough virus.