

Pooled Surveillance Testing for PK-12 Public Schools

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Acknowledgements



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What Is Pooled Surveillance Testing?

- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test for SARS-CoV-2
- Evaluating a group of samples together
 - Equally sensitive
 - Efficient
 - Reliable





Tufts University Pooled Pilot Study Results

- 240 pools over three weeks
- Pooled testing perfectly corresponded with individual results

	1+ positive sample(s) in pool	All samples negative in pool
Pooled positive result	107	0
Pooled negative result	0	133







Pooled Testing Implementation - Benefits

Benefits

- Maximize in-person learning & social development
- Community-facing public health impact
- Cost-effective
- Scalable
- Reliable

Considerations

- Minimize educational disruption
- Ensure rapid turn-around



Pooled Testing Implementation



Considerations for PK-12 Schools and Communities

- Teachers and staff (PK-12) supervised self-administration
- High School students (9-12) supervised self-administration
- K-8 students will need one-on-one collection
- High needs students will need one-on-one collection
- Cohort strategy- staff and students



Operationalizing Testing – Key Success Factors

- Complete and accurate data
 - Staff address, phone, email
 - Parent contact phone and email
 - Student bio/demo and cohort data
- Communications strategy for those with limited access to technology/connectivity
- Obtaining and tracking parental consent
- Planning for staff workload
 - Reaching positive pool members for follow-up testing
 - Increased workload from more testing positive notification, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine release
- Technology platform and training for test administration
- Space and logistics for testing

