

**Table 2.** GRADE Summary of Findings of Test Accuracy Results for Prevalence/Pre-Test Probability of 10% for different Specimen Types

Sample site	Saliva without coughing	Saliva with coughing	OP swab	AN swab	MT swab	Combined AN/OP swab
Sensitivity	0.90 (95% CI: 0.85 to 0.93)	0.99 (95% CI: 0.94 to 1.00)	0.76 (95% CI: 0.58 to 0.88)	0.89 (95% CI: 0.83 to 0.94)	0.95 (95% CI: 0.83 to 0.99)	0.95 (95% CI: 0.69 to 0.99)
Specificity	0.98 (95% CI: 0.93 to 1.00)	0.96 (95% CI: 0.83 to 0.99)	0.98 (95% CI: 0.96 to 0.99)	1.00 (95% CI: 0.99 to 1.00)	1.00 (95% CI: 0.89 to 1.00)	0.99 (95% CI: 0.92 to 1.00)
Outcome	Effect per 1,000 patients tested					
	Pre-test probability of 10% <sup>a, f</sup>					
True positives (patients with COVID-19)	90 (85 to 93)	99 (94 to 100)	76 (58 to 88)	89 (83 to 94)	95 (83 to 99)	95 (69 to 99)
False negatives (patients incorrectly classified as not having COVID-19)	10 (7 to 15)	1 (0 to 6)	24 (12 to 42)	11 (6 to 17)	5 (1 to 17)	5 (1 to 31)
Quality of the evidence <sup>b,c,d</sup>	9 studies 387 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	3 studies 137 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	4 studies 64 patients ⊕○○○ Very LOW <sup>b,d,e</sup>	2 studies 130 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	5 studies 855 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	2 studies 61 patients ⊕○○○ Very LOW <sup>b,d,e</sup>
True negatives (patients without COVID-19)	882 (837 to 900)	864 (747 to 891)	882 (864 to 891)	900 (891 to 900)	900 (801 to 900)	891 (828 to 900)

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False positives (patients incorrectly classified as having COVID-19)	18 (0 to 63)	36 (9 to 153)	18 (9 to 36)	0 (0 to 9)	0 (0 to 99)	9 (0 to 72)
Quality of Evidence	9 studies 2662 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b,c</sup>	3 studies 316 patients ⊕○○○ Very LOW <sup>b,d</sup>	4 studies 368 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	2 studies 722 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>	5 studies 682 patients ⊕○○○ Very LOW <sup>b,d</sup>	2 studies 237 patients ⊕⊕○○ LOW <sup>b</sup>

**Explanations:** This table is based on applying the sensitivity and specificity estimates to calculate true and false positives and negatives in a hypothetical population of 1000 individuals

- Typically seen in general population in an at-risk population
- Using the NP swab as a reference standard increases the risk of bias for all the studies.
- One study with unexplained inconsistent results noted. However, a sensitivity analysis without this study showed robustness of the overall pooled estimate of specificity.
- Considering the upper and lower limits of the confidence interval might lead to different clinical decisions.
- The test of interest was conducted in a small number of patients which might lead to imprecise results.
- The different sample types were not assessed directly in the same studies.