

# Communiqué de presse

Pour publication immédiate

COVID-19

## The COVID-19 gargle test is now available in the Laurentians

**Saint-Jérôme, March 17, 2021** – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) des Laurentides is pleased to announce the availability of the COVID-19 gargle test, which involves gargling with water. The resulting mix of water and saliva is then tested.

Citizens who prefer to get tested this way can now do so at one of the designated clinics in the Laurentians, except for the following individuals:

### Exceptions

- Any healthcare worker experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms;
- Anyone without COVID-19-like symptoms whose condition might require intubation or a bronchoscopy within 48 hours.
- Anyone without COVID-19-like symptoms who is awaiting an organ transplant, as well as the donor;
- Children under the age of six.

“The gargle test has proven accurate, is much less invasive and gives us an added tool in the fight to defeat COVID-19. The teams at all our designated testing clinics are ready to start using it. We urge citizens who are reticent about getting the nasal swab test to take advantage of this alternative and help us slow the spread of the virus,” said the President and Executive Director of the CISSS des Laurentides, Ms. Rosemonde Landry.

For the locations of our designated testing clinics, visit <https://www.santelaurentides.gouv.qc.ca/sante-publique/maladies-infectieuses/covid-19-coronavirus/coronavirus-disease/testing-and-assessment/>.

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