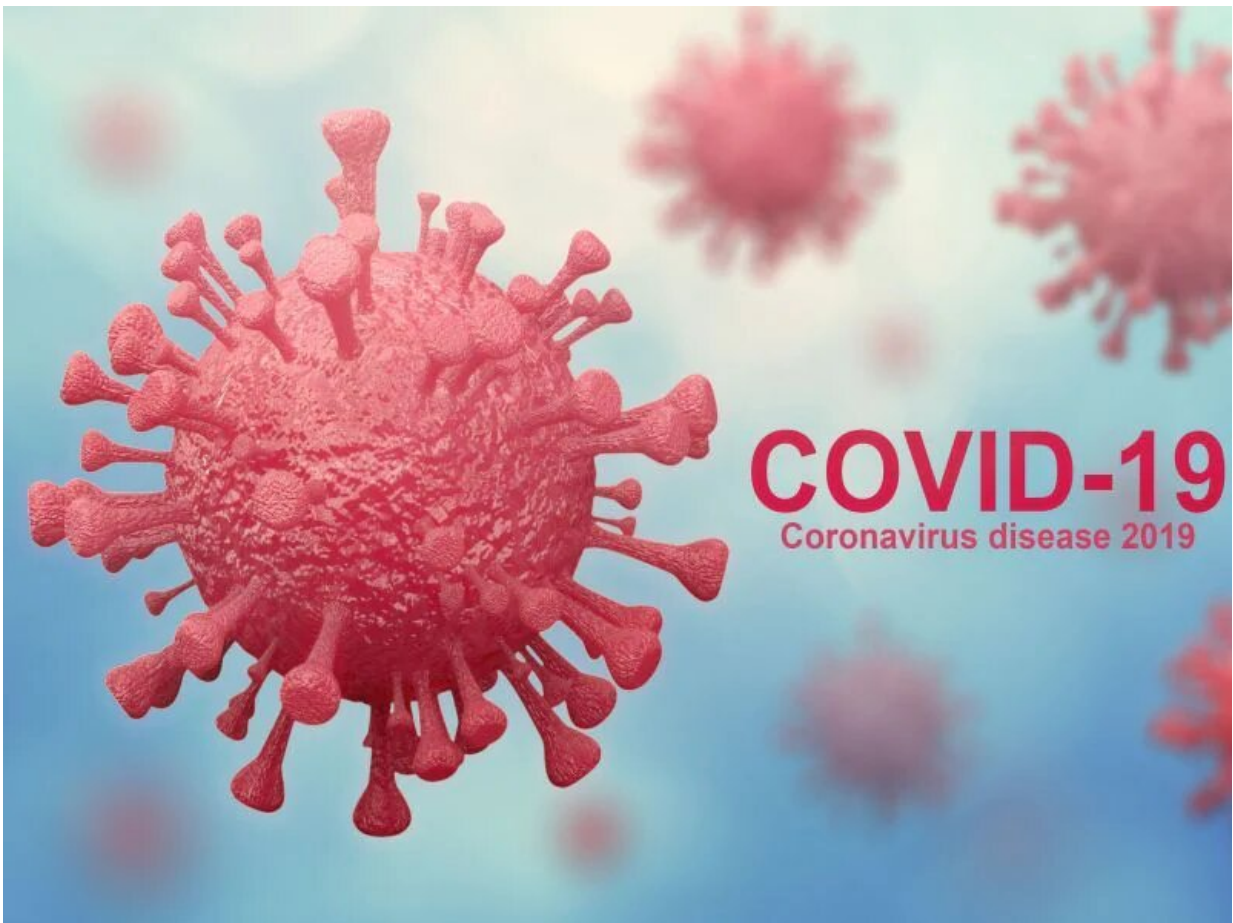


First saliva test for COVID-19 approved by FDA

April 15 2020



The first saliva test for coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) was approved

Monday by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The test, developed by Rutgers University researchers, provides another testing option and could lower health care workers' risk for COVID-19 infection. At first, the test will be available at hospitals and clinics affiliated with the university.

Currently, screening for COVID-19 requires a health care worker to take a swab from a patient's nose or throat. For the new saliva test, patients spit into a plastic tube and then give the tube back to a health care worker for laboratory testing.

"This prevents [health care professionals](#) from having to actually be in the face of somebody that is symptomatic," Andrew Brooks, Ph.D., who directs the Rutgers lab that developed the test, told the *Associated Press*.

More information: [AP News Article](#)
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