



## Discovery DNA Adult Consent Form For Infectious Substance Testing

You, the undersigned, are consenting to have a test performed by Discovery DNA (herein “Discovery DNA”) either for yourself or as a legally authorized representative of the client named herein, to look for an infectious substance. Whether the test sample is your own or you are consenting on behalf of someone for whom you are legally eligible to provide consent, it’s important to understand all aspects of the consent. Participation is voluntary. The testing offered by Discovery DNA may not qualify as official testing - we strongly recommend you check local regulations for testing and follow the recommendations. If you qualify for having a test performed through a different organization or method than the one used by Discovery DNA, we strongly suggest that you pursue that testing option. The testing offered by Discovery DNA may not be considered an official result or provide you any certainty about whether or not we have detected the infectious substance and you should consult your qualified medical practitioner (such as a doctor) before taking any action or responding to the results of the test from Discovery DNA. Discovery DNA will only provide you with a result as described below and will not determine whether or not this test provides clearance or exemptions for work, travel, or any other use cases for the reported result. If you wish to use this report for such cases, you should consult with the relevant authorities.

There is no guarantee that Discovery DNA will find the infectious substance, even if it is present, or even if there are findings, that the results will lead to a better or worse health outcome. The findings from Discovery DNA are for information purposes only and should not be used to make a decision about any treatments or to make a diagnosis. You should be aware of any other services may be available in your area, including those provided by the health care system that you do not have to pay for, that provide DNA testing for diseases through consultation with a qualified medical practitioner (such as a doctor) that are not associated with Discovery DNA. If you are not sure whether the testing offered by Discovery DNA is what you would like to do, please check with your qualified medical practitioner. Review and understand all parts and all pages of the consent.

This consent form is for clients 18 years of age or older providing their own sample for testing, as well as those providing surrogate consent on behalf of another who is unable to provide informed consent for whom you are the legally authorized representative (LAR), including as the parent or guardian for a client under 18 years of age.

### **What does Discovery DNA offer?**

Animals, plants, microorganisms (such as bacteria, fungi, certain parasites), and viruses contain genetic information – either DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) or RNA (ribonucleic acid). There are many methods to detect whether an infectious substance (usually a micro-organism or virus) may be present in a sample. The method used by Discovery DNA is to detect the nucleic acids from the infectious substance. Detecting nucleic acid does not mean that the infectious substance is actually causing the infection, or will cause the infection, but simply that it is present. It’s possible that the infectious substance is present and may be active or inactive. Your qualified medical practitioner would determine, if the infectious substance is present, whether it’s causing you to become sick or whether it

may or may not cause you to become sick. Therefore, the testing offered by Discovery DNA, which simply tests whether the infectious substance is present or not using our methods, is not a diagnosis.

### **What will a Discovery DNA result tell me?**

It's important to understand what the results in each of these categories means. The following describes the possible results from the test:

- 1) **Positive:** If we detect the nucleic acid present of an infectious substance, the test result will be positive. This is not a diagnosis. Sometime, an infectious substance may simply be present and not causing any health care issues. A second test, and possibly one authorized by your local health authority, is likely needed to know for sure whether or not you have a diagnosis. We recommend reviewing the findings with your health care specialist and that you pursue any additional testing will be needed to confirm whether the finding reported by Discovery DNA is genuine.
- 2) **Negative:** This result indicates that we did not find the nucleic acid present from an infectious substance. It is still possible the infectious substance is present but our testing methods simply did not detect it, or the method of collection did not collect the right type of material for testing, and in some cases that testing, storage or shipping instructions were not followed. A negative result does not necessarily mean that there are no infectious substances present – it just means we couldn't find them. A negative result does not guarantee that the person tested is healthy. It might mean that the answer to their health concern does not lie in this type of nucleic acid testing and other causes should be considered with your qualified medical practitioner. Even the best technology is not fool-proof for finding a nucleic acid that might be important or pose a health issue – the technology or our process may have missed it. It's also possible that the person who had the test simply does not have the infectious substance.
- 3) **Indeterminate results:** In rare instances, this test result may not have passed quality control checks for any number of reasons and neither a positive nor a negative result can be reported. In these situations, it may be necessary to start over again and re-collect a new sample or to use a different method of testing than that offered by Discovery DNA.

### **What are the risks and limitations of genetic testing?**

- You should not make any decisions about your health based on the results from Discovery DNA. The results are for information purposes only.
- Accurate interpretation of test results requires a qualified medical professional or as specified for your local health authority.
- While nucleic acid based testing is relied on by thousands of doctors, errors do occur because of (but not limited to): an incorrect sample being sent to Discovery DNA, inaccurate reporting of clinical/medical information, rare technical errors, or other unusual circumstances.
- Result interpretation is based on currently available information in the medical literature, research and scientific databases. Because these sources are constantly changing, new information that becomes available in the future may replace or add to the information Discovery DNA used to interpret the results.

## Confidentiality and Security

Discovery DNA takes your data confidentiality seriously. We use many methods to maintain confidentiality at Discovery DNA:

- 1) **DNA and Data Sovereignty.** All the DNA samples and all the information generated stay within Canada. The DNA sample is not sent to any other lab and your DNA data file is not sent to any other lab in any stage of processing. We are obligated to report any cases that meet criteria for reporting a notifiable disease to local health authorities which would include any and all identifiable information for contact tracing as well as your test results. Other than as legally required, Discovery DNA will not disclose or sell your health information in an identifiable way to any other entity.
- 2) **Data Coding.** Your sample tube will be labeled with a code and at least one piece of non-identifying information such as your initials and/or date of birth. During laboratory processing, the identity of your sample is protected.
- 3) **Data Usage.** Discovery DNA does not sell the DNA sequence. Discovery DNA will allow users, whether researchers in universities or commercial users, to ask questions about the data through a secure and confidential computer interface that safeguards sample anonymity. Users can ask, for example, what types of nucleic acid findings were found using Discovery DNA tests. Findings may be shared, without any identifying information, to help the effort in understanding how to reduce the number of infectious substances in a population, to improve population health or to understand and improve therapies. No financial compensation is provided for this type of data usage.

## Specimen Retention and Storage

After testing is complete, the sample may be retained according to local regulatory guidelines.

## Review of Consent

I have read this entire Informed Consent document and I give permission to Discovery DNA to perform testing as described in the form above. I understand the limitations of the tests offered by Discovery DNA testing and that the results do not provide information that would allow anyone to predict their health outcome in the future or to make any decisions on their health without further testing and consultation with a medical specialist. I understand that I have the legal authority to consent for testing of this sample. I also give permission for information where the identity has been removed to be used for scientific publication or to advance the technologic testing capabilities of Discovery DNA. Discovery DNA has no obligation to provide me with any payment or remuneration for use of the data. My name or other personal identifying information will not be used in or linked to the results of any studies and publications with the exception of mandatory reporting of findings according to local regulatory requirements. No other warranties, verbal or otherwise, are given or shall be implied other than as expressly made in this consent form. I release Discovery DNA from any liabilities that are the

result of finding or not finding a positive, negative or indeterminate test result or any delays or inaccuracies beyond the control of Discovery DNA.

If you wish to change your decisions or have any questions please contact the laboratory via email at [info@discoverydna.ca](mailto:info@discoverydna.ca)

**Please complete the information below:**

<b>Client Information</b>				
Alberta Personal Health No.	Alternate Identifier	Date of Birth (yyyy-mm-dd)		Sex <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Phone H: C:	
Address		City/Town	Prov	Postal Code
<b>Sample Information</b> (leave blank if currently unknown – Discovery DNA will complete upon collection if applicable)				
Sample Tube ID	Date and Time of Sample		Test Type <u>COVID-19 PCR Screening Test</u>	
<b>Attestation</b> (**Sample will <u>not</u> be processed by Discovery DNA if not checked**)				
<input type="checkbox"/> I hereby confirm that I am asymptomatic and do not currently qualify for testing by public health organizations, <b>and</b> I hereby authorize Discovery DNA to report test results as required by public health.				

**SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Consent

If the client providing the sample is unable to provide informed consent, a legally authorized representative (LAR) may sign below. By signing below, this person hereby testifies that the client understands the contents of this form to the best of their ability and provides their assent where applicable. Please only complete this if you are providing surrogate consent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
LAR Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
LAR Name (Print)

Please email this signed consent form with all applicable fields filled to [samplecoordinator@discoverydna.ca](mailto:samplecoordinator@discoverydna.ca)