



Family Department
Family and child day care department
Department of Quality Development in Child Day Care
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Information sheet on the health safety of the Covid rapid tests

Basically, we would like to point out that the legal requirements for medical products in Germany and Europe are very strict. Medical products such as the rapid tests for lay people must offer a high level of health protection. Conversely, this of course also means that they do not pose a health hazard.

The rapid tests for laypersons purchased by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg are included in the [List of antigen tests](#) for direct pathogen detection of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 prepared by the Federal Ministry for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfArM). This list includes those tests which, according to the manufacturer's information, are legally marketed in Europe or Germany in accordance with the requirements of the Medical Products Act (MPG) and fulfil all the minimum criteria for antigen tests laid down by the Paul Ehrlich Institute (PEI) in consultation with the Robert Koch Institute (RKI).

Since the test passed the additional evaluation carried out by the Paul Ehrlich Institute, it is listed in the "Comparative Evaluation of the Sensitivity of SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Tests" and is thus considered medically safe.

The rapid tests from Siemens and Roche distributed by the Social Welfare Authority to the Hamburg day-care centres meet these high legal requirements for medical products, so that it can be assumed that they are not harmful to health.

In addition, the implementation of the rapid tests with children was tested in an extensive model project for testing day-care centre children of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. The aim is to ensure that the high standards of child protection are maintained even when the rapid tests are used, so that even under the difficult pandemic conditions they will remain upheld.

In any case, the needs of Hamburg's day-care children when using the Corona rapid tests must be taken into account. Therefore, children from the age of 3 who attend the elementary or pre-school stage in Hamburg's child day care centres are to be tested by their parents at home. For illustration purposes in the nursery and at home, the school authority [has created a video](#) so that children of preschool and primary school age can learn how to use the Covid rapid tests in a playful way.