A negative COVID-19 test is not always accurate

Interpreting COVID-19 Test Results and Making Informed Public Health Decisions

Due to apparent inconsistencies in the reliability and accuracy of the COVID-19 testing currently in place, positive and negative test results should be deciphered carefully to make appropriate clinical and public health related decisions. Preventive measures such as handwashing practices and social distancing should be emphasized regardless of test results to protect healthy individuals and decrease the spread of COVID-19.

Patients should also be educated on symptoms, preventive measures, and general education regarding COVID-19 to counteract the misinformation and anxiety about the disease. USET TEC can't emphasize enough that the use of cloth masks among all people while in public settings (i.e.- grocery stores, essential businesses) needs to be implemented in Indian Country to assist in decreasing the spread of COVID-19 from those who are infected but asymptomatic to those that are healthy.

Please visit the following link for more information on the use of cloth masks: