



COVID-19

Patient Testing Guidelines



Last updated 8/28/2024

COVID Testing Guidelines

Patients should be tested for COVID-19 when clinically indicated, and per provider judgement.

- Test patients with clinical concern (symptoms) of COVID.
- Providers may choose to test asymptomatic patients if knowing the COVID status will alter the treatment plan for that patient.
- For inpatients who report close contact with a known COVID+ person, test 1, 3, and 5 days after exposure (day of exposure is day 0). See [Precautions by COVID Status](#) for detailed precautions recommendations, including for immunocompromised patients and neonates with COVID + parents.
- Patients who have had COVID in the past 30 days do not require testing after close contact with a known COVID+ person if they remain asymptomatic.
- Infants born to COVID+ mothers do not require testing at 48 hours of age unless there is clinical concern for COVID.
- Inpatient Mental Health COVID Testing guidelines can be found [here](#).
- Use of Respiratory Protection is strongly recommended during all aerosol generating procedures, regardless of the patient's COVID status.

NOTES:

1. Definition of close contact COVID exposure: Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period