

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Testing Algorithm for Health Care Providers Updated 3/6/2020

(Developed by Deschutes County Public Health & reviewed by Oregon Health Authority)

The following criteria are intended to serve as guidance. Providers **NO LONGER NEED TO CALL** your public health authority for testing approval.

Please see below for Oregon State Public Health Lab (OSPHL) approval for testing guidance.

Any patient with possible 2019-nCoV should be masked and roomed promptly.

Inpatient Facilities

Testing through OSPHL

A patient must meet **all** three criteria:

- Clinical need for admission to your facility
- Evidence of viral respiratory infection; and
- Tested negative for influenza

Testing through Commercial Labs

Contact lab for testing availability and requirements

YES

Inpatient Facility and Meets All 3 Criteria for OSPHL Testing

1. Isolate patient:

- Negative-pressure room preferred
- Standard, contact and airborne precautions
- Eye protection

2. Go to the following link for instructions on how to submit a testing request and how to collect / ship specimens to OSPHL:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Emerging%20Respiratory%20Infections/COVID-19-Provisional-Guidance-for-Testing-Approval.pdf>

* **NOTE:** You **MUST** submit an electronic request for testing by completing an Online Confidential Oregon Morbidity Report at www.healthoregon.org/howtoreport.

Outpatient Facilities

Testing through OSPHL

Due to limited testing capacity at this time COVID-19 testing is not routinely available for patients presenting for care in the outpatient setting.

Testing through Commercial Labs

Contact lab for testing availability and requirements

Outpatient Clinics

- Patients presenting with respiratory symptoms should be masked. Providers should use standard, contact and droplet precautions with eye protection for the evaluation or treatment of a patient with respiratory symptoms.
- Specimens collected for commercial lab testing must be collected under airborne precautions:
 - If available, the patient should be in an Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR).
 - The healthcare provider should be wearing full airborne precaution personal protective equipment, including a respirator (N95 or better) and eye protection.
- If a patient does not have a **clinical** need to be sent to the emergency department or a hospital, do not send them there. You do not need to routinely notify the LPHA or OHA when evaluating patients with respiratory illness.
 - These patients should be advised to self-isolate at home until 24 hours after their symptoms resolve.
 - Discuss a plan to seek appropriate medical care should symptoms worsen.
- Avoid any aerosol-generating procedures, including respiratory specimen collection and respiratory therapy treatments (i.e. nebulized medications) that are not immediately required for patient care.

*Additional Resource
Information on Back

Additional Information and Resources

OHA Coronavirus web site:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/emerging-respiratory-infections.aspx>

Specimen Collection: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>

CDC Lab Requisition Form: <https://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/pdf/form-50-34.pdf>

CDC Patient under investigation(PUI) form: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/pui-form.pdf>

OSPHL/Virology Request Form: <https://apps.state.or.us/Forms/Served/le0042.pdf>

Healthcare Infection Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/infection-control.html>

Prevention Steps for People Confirmed to Have, or Being Evaluated for 2019-nCoV Infection Who Receive Care at Home:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/guidance-prevent-spread.html>

Situation Summary: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>