

Cooley Dickinson Hospital

COVID-19 Outpatient Testing Criteria

As of April 30, 2020

*We now have improved capacity for testing. **NEW!** Any age!*

Symptomatic testing now offered to ANY patient with:

At least one of the following, potentially attributable to a respiratory viral illness:

1. Fever
2. New onset sore throat
3. New onset cough
4. New onset runny nose, nasal congestion, anosmia
5. New onset shortness of breath
6. New onset muscle aches [or shaking chills](#)
7. New onset vomiting or diarrhea
8. [New onset headache](#)

OR Asymptomatic Screening Criteria

1. Healthcare worker requiring return to work clearance (CDHC requires f/u testing x 2, refer to EH. VMG, Baystate, and EMS do not require f/u testing. Other HCWs should ask their employer).
2. COVID-19 positive outpatients who require testing for resolution of infection status per Partners policy* due to need for in-person care at a CDHC facility (clinic, VNA, hospital, etc) within the next 30 days (see below)
3. Patients with planned admission or procedure at CDHC, including patients undergoing urgent airway surgery or transplants (solid organ transplant, BMT, CAR-T, and leukemia induction/consolidation or other high-intensity chemotherapy) within the next 48-hours that cannot be deferred. ([Test within 48 hours. For OR, CVIR, Endoscopy, PAT nurses will coordinate testing. For direct admissions, contact nursing office who will review risk criteria for room placement and precautions.](#))
4. Organ Donor (Donations for New England organ bank requiring testing).
5. Retest patients with indeterminate/inconclusive COVID-19 result.
6. Neonates born to a confirmed COVID+ mother.
7. [Patients requiring testing for placement in a congregate setting or being admitted to VNA or hospice service from a congregate setting. \(Congregate settings include SNF, rehab hospital, psychiatric/substance use disorder facility, hospice, correctional facility, or group home\)](#)
8. [Patients from a congregate setting as needed \(see above\)](#)

Referrals for patients to COVID Testing Central Triage accepted from:

1. Local community PCPs (and other providers per prior arrangement)
2. Steve Degurski on behalf of CDHC employees
3. First responders or public health officials who work in Hampshire County. Chief or IC officers to call Sara Burgess directly at 413-522-3787.
4. Katie Kelly or Merridith O'Leary on behalf of the homeless
5. Joanne Levin on behalf of Infection Prevention/Control
6. Cancer Center providers on behalf of cancer patients
7. OB providers on behalf of pregnant women

*Partners Policy

Patients who were diagnosed and treated **exclusively** as outpatients. Two options are available, time-based and test-based.

1. Time-based
 - a. Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
 - b. Resolution of respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), **and**
 - c. Greater than 30 days have elapsed since the date of the positive test.
2. Test-based
 - a. Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
 - b. Resolution of respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **and**
 - c. Passage of at least 10 days since the first positive test **and**
 - d. Two negative nasopharyngeal swabs taken ≥ 24 hours apart.
 - a. When testing for clearance of infection, await the results of the first test before sending the second test.
 - b. If the first or second nasopharyngeal swab is positive, maintain precautions and repeat a nasopharyngeal swab after 3 days for inpatients and 5 days if outpatient.
 - c. Clearance requires two consecutive negative tests ≥ 24 hours apart.