

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19 TESTING 3/27/2020

Now we are in mitigation with containment period, and have 30 confirmed (as of 3/27) COVID-19 cases in Fresno County, **we are removing travel as a risk factor**.

As you all are well aware, at this time we have shortage of testing supplies and do not have laboratory capacity to be able to keep up with large number of tests and hence are recommending that all healthcare providers follow the testing criteria listed below.

We recommend offering and completing testing for HIGH-RISK individuals who meet ALL of the following **THREE categories** noted below.

1. Individuals with symptoms; fever, AND respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breathing)*
2. Have had a close contact with a confirmed (positive results) or suspected (tested but pending results) COVID-19 cases, and
3. High risk population:
 - Healthcare workers
 - First responders (e.g. EMS, fire fighters, police officers)
 - Long-term care facility workers and residents
 - Live or work in congregate settings (e.g. shelters, group home, jail)
 - Immunocompromised (regardless of age)
 - Over 60 years
 - Comorbidities (hypertension, diabetes, chronic heart disease, chronic kidney disease, chronic lung disease or morbid obesity)
 - Hospitalized patient
 - Pregnant women

Individuals who are symptomatic but DO NOT meet the other two criteria for testing, recommend self-isolation until they are at least fever free for 3 days (72 hours) without the use of any fever reducing medications, have no respiratory symptoms, or are 7 days out from the first day of their symptoms, whichever is longer.

Individuals who have had close contact with confirmed COVID-19 case and are asymptomatic, need to **self isolate for 14 days**. If had a close contact with **suspected COVID-19 case** then they **can work with a mask on at all times** till the suspected case is either **negative** – then they can continue to work, OR **positive** – then individual will need to self isolate for 14 days.

*Respiratory symptoms (such as cough, runny nose and sore throat) alone doesn't qualify them for testing at this time BUT this might change in the near future

Disclaimer: There are currently no restrictions on who can be tested for COVID-19 and commercial testing is becoming more available. Healthcare providers may test any patient with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath) but we recommend following the criteria above while we are facing shortage of testing supplies and labs.

