This guidance applies to all facility types, including emergency departments, outpatient settings, inpatient settings, and intensive care.

Follow this guidance to
- determine if COVID-19 testing is indicated
- understand your options for laboratory testing
- safely care for your patient and collect specimens

**Determine if COVID-19 testing is clinically indicated.**

Does the patient exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

- cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing,
- fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, diarrhea

**Understand your options for laboratory testing.**

If a patient is not in a high-risk group, and a test result will not inform clinical care, please be mindful of ongoing shortages of specimen collection materials and reagents.

If patient is in a high-risk group*, a consultation for testing can be performed through TDH. You may also consider testing through Quest, LabCorp, or hospital lab. These options do not require TDH approval.

**Safely care for your patient and collect specimens.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Target Personnel</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Type of PPE or procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Triage</td>
<td>Healthcare Personnel</td>
<td>Preliminary screening (not direct contact)</td>
<td>Maintain spatial distance of &gt;3 ft No specific PPE required for HCP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patient with respiratory symptoms</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Place surgical mask on patient Minimize time in waiting room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Room</td>
<td>Healthcare Personnel</td>
<td>Direct patient care</td>
<td>Gown, gloves, facemask, eye protection (goggles or face shield)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specimen collection¹</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gown, gloves, facemask, eye protection *Depending on PPE supply, consider use of N-95 respirator if there is concern about aerosol generation (no AIIIR required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Healthcare Personnel</td>
<td>Aerosol-generating procedures²</td>
<td>Gown, gloves, N-95 respirator, eye protection (goggles or face shield)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patient with respiratory symptoms</td>
<td>Routine clinical care</td>
<td>To the degree possible, patients with respiratory symptoms should wear a surgical mask during encounters with the healthcare team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*High-Risk Groups

- Hospitalized patients
- Contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases
- Occupations with exposures to large numbers of contacts (e.g., teachers)
- Healthcare workers
- Nursing home residents
- Severely immunocompromised patients
- Pregnant women

To request testing at TDH, please call 615-741-7247.

June 2, 2020