

Long-Term Care Baseline COVID-19 Testing

Clarification Meeting

Division of Public Health

NEBRASKA

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Helping People Live Better Lives.

Governor Pete Ricketts

Vision:

Grow Nebraska

Mission:

Create opportunity through more effective, more efficient, and customer focused state government

Priorities:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Customer Service
- Growth
- Public Safety
- Reduced Regulatory Burden

We Value:

- The Taxpayer
- Our Team
- Simplicity
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Respect

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Long-Term Care Baseline COVID-19 Testing

▶ Clarification

- Registration Process
- Specimen Collection Process
- Packaging and Shipping Specimens to CHI St. Elizabeth Lab

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Registration Process

- ▶ Must take place at the same time as the testing process – not able to register in advance
- ▶ Registration must be completed in order to link specimens to individual test results
- ▶ Must use Google Chrome as browser
- ▶ When registering staff, use the e-mail address of the staff member
- ▶ When registering residents, use the facility Administrator or DON e-mail address
- ▶ Nurse ID – Name of the health care professional who is performing the testing
- ▶ State License Number – number on the facility’s State license document
- ▶ Patient ID – Prepopulated unique identifier for each individual – please do not change
- ▶ Test Kit ID – QR Code from the test kit bag and vials should all match

Registration Process

- ▶ How should a facility conduct testing of staff who have returned from leave time or who are new employees with a facility since the majority of staff were tested?
 - Request enough test kits initially for all staff
 - If additional test kits are needed, contact your LHD first to see if they have extra test kits
 - If LHD does not have test kits, submit another request through the online intake survey
 - Register those staff through the same abbreviated LTC process
 - Perform the testing in the same manner
 - Send a separate shipment of the specimens to the CHI St. Elizabeth Lab

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Specimen Collection Process

- ▶ Click on the link below or copy and paste it into the URL for a video on the specimen collection process.
- ▶ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_mTxYUVCNtByZEPoFihvLr-kO0le3sZt/view?invite=CJrBIJMI&ts=5f08f438

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Packaging and Shipping Specimens

▶ Simplified Process:

1. You will receive COVID-19 specimen collection kits from the state. A collection kit consists of a small vial and nasopharyngeal swab inside of a leak-proof biohazard bag.
2. Each vial is labeled with a QR code, there is a QR code on the bag that matches the QR code on the vial. This QR code functions as your specimen label. **You should not add any labels or writing on the bag or vial under any circumstances.**
3. After you have collected the specimen and entered the test kit ID into the patient intake survey, please place the vial back into the provided leak-proof biohazard bag, push out any excess air, and seal the bag.

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Packaging and Shipping Specimens (continued)

4. As the specimens are collected and placed back into their provided bag, please keep them in a hard-sided cooler with cold packs (**ice is not acceptable**).
5. Please give the entire cooler to the courier to transport to the lab.
6. Under no circumstances should samples that have not been entered successfully into the patient intake survey be sent to the lab.
7. Please contact Sydney Bright at 502-333-2281 or Angela Ling at 702-813-1658 with any questions.

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CHI St. Elizabeth Laboratory

- All samples are processed at CHI St. Elizabeth Lab. Address: 555 S. 70th, Lincoln, NE 68510
- NPHL is no longer being used for LTC testing, so please do not send specimens to NPHL
- In order for specimens to be processed by CHI St. Elizabeth Lab, they must be registered through the LTC abbreviated registration process for TestNebraska
- CHI St. Elizabeth is open 24/7/365. Test Nebraska samples are run 24/7.
- Samples can be dropped off any day at any time.
- All samples should be shipped in a cooler with cold packs
- Enter the hospital from 70th and L Street. This will take you to the back of the hospital. Continue to the back of the building. There is 15 minute parking.
- Walk up to door number 8. (This is directly forward from the 15 minute parking).
- Call 402-219-7132 (lab) and explain you are here to drop off Test Nebraska samples.
- Someone will meet you at the door to let you in.

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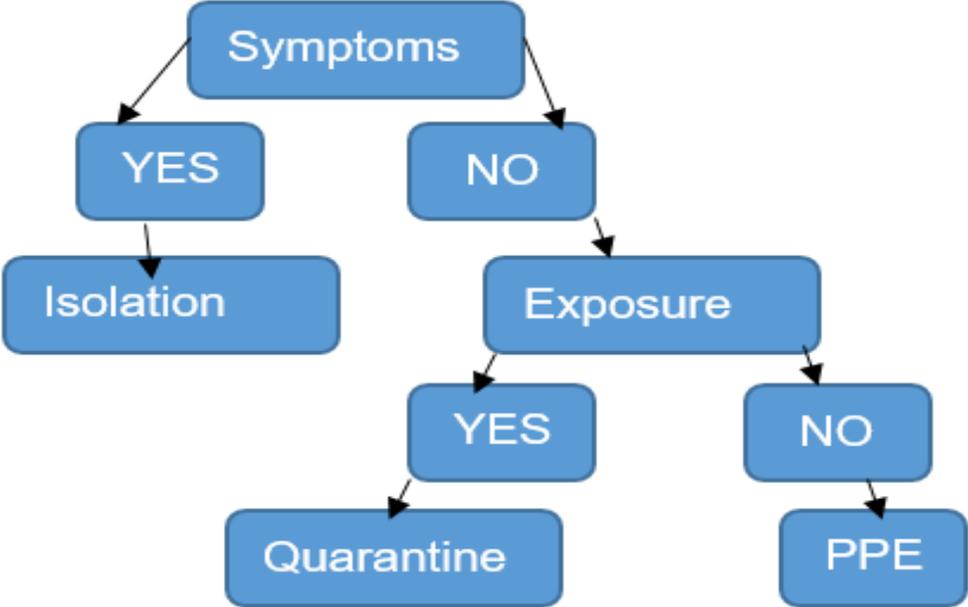
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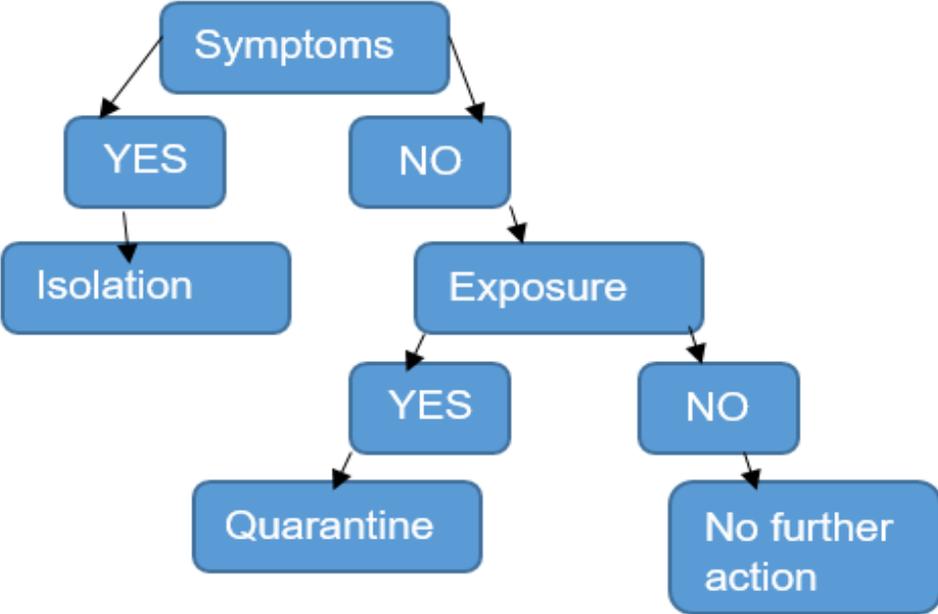
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Declined Test Policy

STAFF



RESIDENTS



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Declined Tests

- Staff or residents who decline the offer of testing are to be considered as COVID positive
- However, a staff member who has declined testing does not require a facility to test all residents
- An actual positive test result of a staff member would require testing all residents

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Test Results

- ▶ Facility receives aggregate report with total number of positives and negatives
- ▶ Staff receive individual results
- ▶ Facility receives resident results

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