



Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs

For people (e.g., children, care providers, or staff) who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, send home or deny entry and reference the exclusion criteria in this document to determine when they may return.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

new onset cough or shortness of breath, fever (100.4°F or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea.

If a person has a new symptom (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing.

For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19

Positive Test Result: home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings, household members, and close contacts* also stay home for 14 days from the last day of contact with the individual that tested positive.

Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis: Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings, household members and close contacts* also stay home for 14 days from the last day of contact with the individual that tested positive.

For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis *without* a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 *without* a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)

Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members may be required to stay home for 14 days from the last day of contact with the individual that tested positive.



For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition

Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider.

If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider to determine next steps.

Siblings and household members **do not** need to stay home.

* A close contact is defined as: someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before the start of illness (or, for patients with no symptoms, 2 days prior to test date) until the time the patient is isolated. At this time, whether or not an individual had on a fabric face covering or not, does not exclude them from being a close contact.