

Tip Sheet for Notification of COVID-19 Positive Results

Note: Families should be notified within 24 hours of results

Talking points to discuss with families

- Your child has tested positive for COVID-19
- Your child (and anyone else that has tested positive) should stay home while infectious, which is at least 10 days from symptom onset, provided the symptoms are improving and no fever without anti-pyretics for 3 days. If your child has been asymptomatic, then the period of isolation is 10 days from the date of testing.
- If your child has persistent or worsening symptoms, they should seek medical care with their PCP or the Emergency Department as needed

FAQs

What is the risk of my child becoming very sick?

From what we know about this virus so far, children tend to have mild disease. Children with COVID-19 have generally presented with mild symptoms and have improved quickly. You should monitor your child closely, especially if they have underlying medical conditions. If they have persistent or worsening symptoms you should contact your child's primary care physician or bring them to the emergency room if needed.

What treatment does my child need?

Children with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve their symptoms. There is no specific antiviral treatment.

Should I isolate my child?

The CDC recommends that person(s) testing positive should stay home while infectious, which is at least 10 days from symptom onset, provided symptoms improving and no fever without anti-pyretics for 3 days. If your child does not have symptoms, then they should isolate for 10 days from the date they were tested.

How should household contacts monitor themselves?

Household contacts of a positive patient should attempt to self-isolate and monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days from the time of exposure. This is the incubation period and time frame it takes to develop illness if infected. If the exposure is ongoing, the 14-day time frame begins once positive contact has completed their isolation period (see previous question).

Should I be tested? Should my other children or other household contacts be tested?

Testing should only be performed on symptomatic patients. If you or other household contacts are well, please continue to monitor your symptoms. If anyone becomes sick or symptomatic, call your primary care physician to discuss if testing for COVID-19 is needed.

How is the virus spread?

The virus is thought to be spread mainly:

- through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks
- from person to person between people who are in close contact with one another (about 6 feet)
- touching a surface with virus, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before cleaning your hands

How can I keep my family safe?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 15 seconds or with alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Cover our mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- Keep hands off of face, especially mouth, nose and eyes
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces