



Fairfax County Health Department– COVID 19 Public Health Testing Algorithm

Does the patient have fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness?

NO

Patient should not be tested for COVID-19

YES

Is the patient a healthcare worker or first line responder?
OR
Is the patient hospitalized (Priority will be given to patients where circumstances require a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis for compassionate use treatment with antivirals)?

YES

Patient qualifies for public health testing– request testing through the following link:
<https://redcap.vdh.virginia.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=EWFER7X7YX>

NO

Was influenza ruled out (negative influenza rapid result)?

YES

Negative influenza result is needed for patient to qualify for public health testing.
If negative for influenza -request testing through the following link: <https://redcap.vdh.virginia.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=EWFER7X7YX> .
Positive influenza results are not approved for testing.

Is the patient someone who resides or works in a congregate setting (e.g., LTCF)?
OR
Is the patient part of a potential cluster of unknown respiratory illness (priority for healthcare facility outbreaks)?

NO

Patient DOES NOT qualify for public health testing– consider testing commercially

What to do with symptomatic patients stating that they are a contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19?

- FCHD is unable to verify if contact with a confirmed case did occur (given the delay in some investigations and challenges identifying all of a case’s contacts). Evaluate these patients regarding their need for testing based on the clinical presentation, course of illness and exposure history, and consider commercial testing for those you clinically believe to be suspect COVID-19 patients. **You do not need to contact FCHD for approval on this commercial lab test.**