



COVID-19 and Seasonal Influenza: Interim Guidance for Health Care and Public Health Providers

TESTING

Table 6.3 COVID-19 Testing Definitions and Strategies <i>Adapted from the CDC interim considerations for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Correctional and Detention Facilities</i>			
Strategy	Individuals Tested	Goals of Testing	Timing and Frequency
DIAGNOSTIC Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm diagnosis of COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test when patient presents with symptoms
OUTBREAK RESPONSE Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposed inmates and staff who are susceptible to infection (naïve or >90 days since first positive test) Close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (e.g., housing, yard, worksite, shared ventilation) Broad-based testing of asymptomatic inmates in the entire facility or institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the extent of transmission in the institution Identify patients who are infected for isolation and monitoring Limit transmission with rapid isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As soon as possible after one or more cases are identified among inmates or staff at an institution Serial testing every 3-7 days of groups (e.g., housing, worksite) of exposed inmates who initially test negative until all tests are negative in a 14-day time frame
QUARANTINE Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymptomatic close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (e.g., housing, yard, worksite) in quarantine Other asymptomatic exposed inmates in quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify patients who are infected for isolation and monitoring Identify inmate contacts eligible for release from quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the beginning of quarantine (within 24 hours if not tested within last 7 days or at 3 days post-exposure), middle of quarantine, and end of quarantine (day 12-14) trial testing every 3-7 days of all susceptible inmate contacts who initially test negative until all tests are negative in a 14-day time frame
RISK-BASED Routine Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients using aerosol-generating devices (e.g., nebulizers or continuous positive airway pressure [CPAP] devices) Vulnerable patients (age >65, comorbidities, COVID-19 weighted risk score ≥ 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early diagnosis to reduce morbidity and mortality among patients at higher risk of severe COVID-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least monthly in facilities or institutions in non-outbreak settings (no new cases in 14 days) Upon patient request



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INMATE WORKER Routine Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susceptible inmates working in enclosed spaces with staff or inmates outside of their housing unit, in healthcare or other areas where patients are isolated or quarantined for COVID-19, providing health aid or peer support, or in jobs that require movement about the facility or institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify infections in asymptomatic non-exposed inmate workers to prevent transmission to other inmates and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly testing offer for susceptible inmate workers in non-outbreak settings
Testing for MOVEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrivals from a county jail, return from out-to-court • Inter-facility transfers, transfers to fire camps • Release to the community, parole, probation • Inter-facility transfers for mental health, medical, or dental services • Returns from medical/hospital, off-site appointments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the safety of transfers • Reduce the risk of introduction of the virus • Early identification of asymptomatic infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Movement Matrix Screening and Testing Matrix (Appendix 13)
Public Health SURVEILLANCE Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susceptible individuals representing cohorts of patients that regularly comingle or share air space (e.g., housing unit, worksite), excluding quarantined patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detect outbreaks in an early phase to limit spread and prevent morbidity and mortality • Needed for the transition to higher re-opening phase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly testing of a sample of susceptible patients from each identified cohort in non-outbreak settings • Test 25% (up to 25) patients per cohort each week

Excerpted from the Testing section of the CCHCS Interim Guidance for Health Care and Public Health Providers: <https://cchcs.ca.gov/covid-19-interim-guidance/>