

Testing Criteria for COVID-19 in the Emergency Department

Potentially Symptomatic or Patients Under Investigation (PUI):

- Patients exhibit a range of signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19. We recommend testing for patients presenting with the following:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Patients with a close/household contact who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Asymptomatic, Non-PUI individuals:

- Patients may not exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 yet be able to spread the virus. Please promote universal masking and eye protection in the ED. Our testing supplies for in-house testing are tenuous and require careful stewardship. The following patients *without* symptoms should be tested:
 - Patients being admitted to UVMMC.
 - Patients being referred to congregate psychiatric settings, including psychiatric admission at UVMMC must wait in ED for result.
 - Patients who need COVID-19 test prior to discharge or transfer to a new congregate setting such as a nursing home, rehab facility, psychiatric facility or Assist.
 - Patients requiring a pre-procedural test based on current pre-procedural guidelines.
- *Note:* Patients who have had a positive COVID test in the past 90 days should not be tested again if asymptomatic.