

Shelby County Safety Net COVID-19 testing protocol

I. COVID testing criteria, any of the following:

1. Patients with new flu-like symptoms within the past 7 days, including any of the following:
 - a. Fever (subjective or measured) OR
 - b. shaking chills OR
 - c. cough or shortness of breath OR
 - d. acute onset sore throat OR
 - e. acute onset body/muscle aches or fatigue OR
 - f. loss of smell and taste OR
 - g. acute onset of diarrhea

If demand exceeds available scheduled appointment slots and wait list is required, then prioritize scheduling patients with any of the following risk factors:

- i. Age over 65
 - ii. diabetes
 - iii. chronic heart, lung, or disease
 - iv. HIV, cancer, or receiving immunosuppressive medications
2. Healthcare workers or first responders with close contact with a symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed case or within 48 hours before that case's symptom onset, while not wearing personal protective equipment.

Close contact is defined as

- a. being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (over 10 minutes); OR
- b. having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

Note: Non-public servants with close contact with a symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed case should be quarantined for 14 days and should only be tested for COVID-19 novel coronavirus if they develop symptoms. The rationale for this is that patients with prolonged close contact are likely to have false negative tests during the early asymptomatic portion of infection and are more likely to test positive after symptoms develop.

3. Testing is also available for those with or without symptoms

who:

- Work in a health care facility
- Work in correctional facilities, such as jails or prisons
- Serve as first responders, such as paramedics, emergency medical technicians,
- law enforcement officers or firefighters
- Support critical infrastructure, such as workers in grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants, gas stations, public utilities, and sanitation

3.4. Healthcare workers or other critical infrastructure employees with previous positive COVID-19 testing who require test-based clearance of isolation by employer. Test-based isolation clearance requires two negative tests 48 hours apart. Tests of previous positive patients should be ordered by provider, NOT based on standing orders.