

Testing Summary Table

Testing Trigger	Staff	Residents
Symptomatic Individuals	Staff, regardless of vaccination status, with signs or symptoms must be tested as soon as possible	Residents, regardless of vaccination status, with signs or symptoms must be tested as soon as possible.
Newly Identified COVID-19 Positive Staff or Resident—Able to Identify Close Contacts (Outbreak and Exposure Testing)	Test all staff, regardless of vaccination status, that had a higher risk exposure. The day of exposure is day 0. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day 1 (not sooner than 24 hours after exposure). Day 3 (48 hours after last negative test) Day 5 (48 hours after last negative test). 	Test all residents, regardless of vaccination status, that had close contact with a positive individual. The day of exposure is day 0. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day 1 (not sooner than 24 hours after exposure). Day 3 (48 hours after last negative test) Day 5 (48 hours after last negative test).
Newly Identified COVID-19 Positive Staff or Resident—Unable to identify Close Contacts (Outbreak Broad-Based Testing)	Test all staff, regardless of vaccination status, building-wide or at a group level if staff are assigned to a specific location where the new case occurred, every 3-7 days (if possible) until no additional positive cases are identified for 14-days.	Test all residents, regardless of vaccination status, building-wide or at a group level every 3-7 days (if possible) until no additional positive cases are identified for 14-days.
Routine Testing	Not generally recommended.	Not generally recommended.

Staff Return to Work Testing

The decision to return a staff member to work or discontinue empiric use of TBP can be made based upon having negative results from at least one viral test.

- If using NAAT, if a higher level of clinical suspicion for COVID-19 infection exists, consider maintaining TBP and confirming with a second NAAT.
- If using an antigen test, a negative result should be confirmed by either a negative NAAT or second negative antigen test taken 48-hours after the first.

Testing on Admission

If choose to implement testing on admission, do not base on vaccination status. If testing is implemented on admission for those in high community transmission, should test with a series of 3 tests, spaced 48 hours apart.

Testing After COVID-19 Infection

Testing is generally not recommended for asymptomatic people who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 30-days.

Testing should be considered (using an antigen test and not an NAAT) for those who have recovered in the prior 31-90 days.

References

- CDC. (2022, Sept, 23) *Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the COVID-19 Pandemic..* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>
- CMS. (2022, Sept, 23). *QSO-20-38-NH-Revised* <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh-revised.pdf>