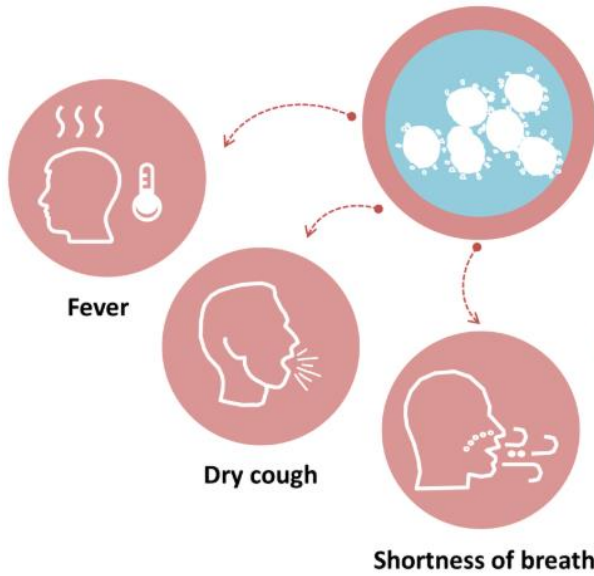


## **HOW CAN I GET TESTED FOR COVID-19?**

### **Testing Guidance for PHR 6/5 South Clinical Staff**

- If you think you have been infected with coronavirus, please determine if you meet the criteria to get tested for COVID-19.
- Testing criteria includes having fever, cough, shortness of breath AND:
  - prior close contact to someone that tested positive for COVID-19,
  - prior travel to a location with ongoing transmission of COVID-19,
  - having risk factors for getting very sick from COVID-19, or
  - being hospitalized with COVID-19 symptoms even if you do not have any risk factors.
- If you have health insurance and meet the criteria for being tested, please contact your primary care provider. Your primary care provider will make the final decision for you to receive testing. If your primary care physician recommends you get tested for COVID-19, they will provide you with an order.
- With a doctor's order, you can get tested for COVID-19 at a private or commercial lab. LabCorp, Quest Diagnostics, and hospital labs can test you for COVID-19. Please call the lab before arriving as they may provide you with special instructions to receive testing. The price of COVID-19 testing varies depending on health insurance, and fees at private and commercial labs.
- If you do not have health insurance and meet the criteria for being tested, please contact your [local health department](#). Your local health department will determine if you meet [certain testing criteria](#). If you meet the criteria to get tested, you will be able to receive testing for no cost at a public health lab.
- If you need a healthcare provider, dial 211 – they will direct you to low- or no-cost providers in your area. Providers for individuals that do not have health insurance may also contact local health departments to facilitate if testing is appropriate.
- Texas public health labs now have the capacity to test and will continue to expand through both public and private labs. Private testing will far exceed what is available through the public health system.



**Please follow the criteria and steps for COVID-19 testing;**

- Have a fever, cough, and shortness of breath AND
- Prior close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19
- Prior travel to a local with ongoing transmission of COVID-19
- Having risk factors for getting very sick from COVID-19
- Being hospitalized with COVID-19 symptoms even if you do not have any risk factors



Call your **primary care provider** who can help make the decision if you should get tested



If you do not have a health care provider, **call your local health department** for testing directions. Please **remember to call ahead before visiting any medical or clinic facility**



If you match the testing criteria, your physician will refer you to a **public lab** (*testing is free*), **commercial lab** (*fee may depend*) or a **drive-through testing** (*may or may not have a fee*) if one is available in your area

**QUESTIONS?**

**Phone:** Dial 2-1-1, then choose Option 6      **Hours:** (7AM - 8PM, 7 days a week)

**Email:** [coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov)