



## For Shelters: COVID-19 Testing for Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Contra Costa Health Services will screen and test high risk individuals for COVID-19 who are experiencing homelessness or living in congregate settings.

- 1) Patient should be referred if they answer “yes” to any of the below questions:
  - Have you had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive patient (within the last 14 days?)
  - Do you have a fever? (100 degrees or higher; may rely on patient self-report)
  - Do you have a new cough or a cough that is getting worse?
  - Do you have new or worsening shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
  - Do you have new onset of diarrhea?

***Please call 911 immediately if patient has extreme difficulty breathing (not being able to speak without gasping for air), bluish lips or face, persistent pain or pressure in chest, severe persistent dizziness or lightheadedness, new confusion, or inability to arouse, or new seizures or seizures that will not stop.***

- 2) If patient answers “yes” to any of the above questions:
  - Retrieve two masks, one for yourself and one for the client.
  - If the Health Care for the Homeless team is not onsite, call the **Public Health COVID-19 Mobile Testing Team: (925) 608-5276** for screening. Put the phone on speaker phone.
  - A nurse will ask about signs/symptoms and basic information for patient registration. Requests will be screened to ensure residents meet current testing criteria
  - Phone line is staffed all days of the week 8:00am – 3:30pm.
  - If phone isn’t answered, messages can be left and will be reviewed promptly. If the phone goes to voicemail please leave: patient name, DOB, current shelter location, & phone number for both shelter & patient (if available)
  - If it is after 3:30pm, call the Public Health on-call team (see below) to be transported to hotel site without nurse screening. Patient will be screened/tested the next day at the hotel.
- 3) Arrange for hotel placement and transportation where patient will be tested & await results:
  - Call the **Public Health On-Call Team at (925) 500-0042**. Staffed 24/7
  - On-call team will arrange for hotel room and transportation
  - Patient should remain isolated until transportation arrives. Shelter should provide mask to patient. Patient should avoid congregate space and patient should be kept in a room apart from other residents. If no space is available, patient should remain outside.
  - Shelter should secure belongings of patient and reserve bed for patient’s return
  - Contra Costa Public Health Department will be in touch with the patient and shelter staff when it is safe to return