
**COVID-19 testing**

Testing for COVID-19 is available at:
- The Arizona State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL) for patients who **meet the Persons Under Investigation (PUI) criteria** below AND
- **At commercial laboratories** (LabCorp and Quest Diagnostics) for patients who **do not meet PUI criteria** and healthcare providers would like to test. **Do not call Public Health to obtain this testing.**

**To obtain approval for testing at ASPHL:**
The patient must meet the PUI criteria below **AND** the provider must contact Maricopa County Department of Public Health.

Testing can be ordered by healthcare providers through commercial laboratories **without Public Health approval.** Healthcare providers should follow their facility’s protocol for ordering send-out commercial laboratory tests.

**Healthcare providers caring for a patient with fever and/or acute respiratory symptoms should:**
- Obtain detailed travel history, including all national and international travel, for the 14 days prior to symptom onset;
- Consider adding travel screening, including all countries under **CDC Travel Warning Levels 2 & 3** to your patient triage protocol;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria to Guide Evaluation of Persons Under Investigation (PUI)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Features</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fever(^1) OR signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) <strong>NOT</strong> requiring hospitalization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fever(^1) OR signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) <strong>NOT</strong> requiring hospitalization in a person with a high-risk occupation(^5) OR who lives in a congregate setting(^6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fever(^1) AND signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) <strong>requiring hospitalization</strong></td>
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<td>Fever(^1) AND severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) <strong>requiring hospitalization</strong>, radiographic confirmation of bilateral pulmonary infiltrates, &amp; <strong>without alternative explanatory diagnosis</strong> (negative influenza testing &amp; respiratory viral panel)(^6)</td>
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</tbody>
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\(^1\)Fever may be subjective or confirmed.

\(^2\)For healthcare personnel, testing may be considered if there has been exposure to a person with suspected COVID-19 without laboratory confirmation.

\(^3\)Close contact is defined at the CDC website: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html)

\(^4\)Documentation of laboratory-confirmation of 2019-nCoV may not be possible for travelers or persons caring for patients in other countries.

\(^5\)Countries or counties/states where sustained community transmission has been identified (e.g., countries with [CDC Level 2 or 3 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/travel/health-notices.html) and counties/states such as Snohomish County, WA, Solano County, CA, etc.) which can change rapidly.

\(^6\)Category includes single or clusters of patients with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) of unknown etiology in which COVID-19 is being considered.

\(^7\)Also consider testing for Coccidioidomycosis and Legionella.

\(^8\)Healthcare personnel, school personnel, childcare worker, jail/prison personnel, or other similar occupation.

\(^9\)Jail/prison, long-term care facility or nursing home, university, or other similar setting.

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**For all patients who meet COVID-19 PUI criteria:**

1. Healthcare personnel entering the room should **use droplet, contact, and standard precautions, plus eye protection** (e.g., goggles or a face shield) and **patients can be evaluated in a private room** with the door closed (unless performing aerosol-generating procedures, which should be performed in an AIIR);
2. **Immediately notify your healthcare facility’s infection control personnel**;
3. If you are seeking approval for COVID-19 testing through the state public health laboratory **only**, notify Maricopa County Department of Public Health at:
   a. Monday–Friday 8AM–5PM — call (602) 506-6767 and ask for a Surveillance Nurse or;
   b. After 5PM and on weekends — call (602) 747-7111 and ask for the Provider On-Call.
4. **Collect specimens for testing** for COVID-19, which include:
   a. Upper respiratory specimen (e.g., nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal [NP/OP] swab);
   b. Lower respiratory specimen (e.g., BAL, tracheal aspirate) in **intubated patients ONLY**

For more information, please visit the CDC website: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/)