

## Weekly Summary

Highlighting this past week's event with useful tips and suggestions

July 17, 2020

CMA in partnership with the state of California is distributing a **2-month supply of PPE** to all qualified medium and small sized medical practices, **while supply last**. The kit will include gloves, N95 and surgical masks, gowns, and shields. It will be distributed through local "drive through" events at varying dates by county between July 27 and August 7.

Please go to the site below **ASAP** to reserve your supply. **Deadline for submission is July 21, 2020.**

<https://www.cmapperelief.org/Home/page380/1/size380/12page380=1&size380=12?page380=1&size380=12>

Stay safe and healthy!

Dr. Derek Lanier, National CMO  
Dr. Cassidy Tsay, CA CMO  
Lourdes Alberto, SVP Nat'l Network Management

### Highlights on COVID-19: New Testing Guidelines- issued by CA Department of Public Health, July 14, 2020

- **Tier 1 Priority**
  - Hospitalized individuals with COVID-19 symptoms
  - People with close contacts of confirmed cases
- **Tier 2 Priority: Asymptomatic individuals in the following categories**
  - People who live in higher risk congregate care facilities, i.e. SNF, Board and Care
  - Workers in the healthcare sector with frequent interactions with the public
  - In-Home Supportive Service Program caregivers
  - Workers in the Emergency service sectors
  - Individuals requiring pre-operative/hospitalization admission screening
  - Individuals being discharged to lower care setting after hospitalization
- **Tier 3 Priority: workers**
  - People who work in areas with frequent interaction with the public, i.e. retail, manufacturing, food services, public transportation
  - People who work in the education sector, i.e. school programs, colleges, childcare
- **Tier 4 Priority: would be implemented when state's testing turn-around-time is less than 48 hours**
  - Asymptomatic people who do not meet any of the above criteria

For a complete list, visit <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Updated-COVID-19-Testing-Guidance.aspx>

## Helpful Resource Center



America's Physician Groups (APG) Response and Resources  
Page: <https://www.apg.org/apg-covid-19-response-and-resources/>

Medical Group Management Association COVID-19 Resource  
Center: <https://www.mgma.com/>

### Telehealth Resources:

CMS Telehealth Fact Sheet: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-telemedicine-health-care-provider-fact-sheet>

Center for Connected Health Policy- State Specific  
Resource: <https://www.cchpca.org/resources/covid-19-related-state-actions>

### Diagnosis Codes and Claims Guidelines:

ICD-10-CM Official Coding Guidelines – Supplement: Coding encounters related to COVID-19 Coronavirus Outbreak: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/ICD-10-CM-Official-Coding-Gudance-Interim-Advice-coronavirus-feb-20-2020.pdf>

New ICD-10-CM code for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), April 1, 2020: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/Announcement-New-ICD-code-for-coronavirus-3-18-2020.pdf>

### Government Resources:

General COVID-19 information: <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

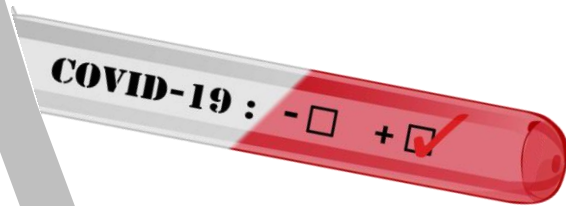
CMS Partner Toolkit: <https://www.cms.gov/outreach-education/partner-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-partner-toolkit>

DHCS COVID-19 Resource Page: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/DHCS-COVID%E2%80%9119-Response.aspx>

DMHC COVID-19 Resource Page: <http://www.dmhc.ca.gov/COVID-19.aspx>

Orange County Health Dept COVID-19 Center: <https://ocovid19.ochealthinfo.com/>

Los Angeles Health Dept: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/>



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Please send us your most current e-mail address to [ProviderInfo@prospectmedical.com](mailto:ProviderInfo@prospectmedical.com) to receive Provider Resources electronically.

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# PPE Relief Program

CMA in partnership with the State of California is distributing a two-month supply of PPE to all qualified, medium and small sized practices, while supplies last. PPE Relief kits include up to a two-month supply (exact amount may vary by practice size, specialty and location) and will contain gloves, N95 and surgical masks, gowns and shields. PPE will be distributed through local “drive through” events, to be hosted on various dates by county between July 27 and August 7.

**Fill out the form below to reserve your free supply of medical-grade PPE by July 21.** Details regarding your local distribution event will follow via email.

Please begin by finding your practice below by searching your address, practice, or physician name. If you are unable to find your practice, please select the “Practice not Listed” button.

**Please only submit 1 reservation per location, multiple reservations may cause delay or rejection.**

**\* Two-month supply is an estimate based on average usage. Will vary based on individual practice use.**



| <a href="#">Name</a> | <a href="#">Address</a> | <a href="#">Address 1</a> | <a href="#">City</a> | <a href="#">State</a> | <a href="#">Zip</a> |
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State Public Health Officer & Director

State of California—Health and Human  
Services Agency  
**California Department of Public  
Health**



**GAVIN NEWSOM**  
Governor

July 14, 2020

**TO:** Public health officials, healthcare providers and laboratories

**SUBJECT:** Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance

This guidance is an update to the interim COVID-19 testing guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on May 1, 2020. This updated guidance is intended to support public health officials, health care providers, and laboratories in determining who should be tested given the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic in California.

### **What's new in this revision compared to May 1, 2020 Testing Guidance?**

COVID-19 testing in California has rapidly expanded over the past three months and we have learned much about COVID-19 and which populations and communities it impacts disproportionately.

Consequently, CDPH recommends first prioritizing testing of hospitalized individuals with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 infection followed by testing of other symptomatic individuals and higher risk asymptomatic individuals and then other asymptomatic individuals when certain conditions exist. This guidance should be used for prioritization of patient populations as well as for the purposes of guiding laboratories in managing specimen processing.

#### **Tier One Priority**

- Hospitalized individuals with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Investigation and management of outbreaks, under direction of state and local public health departments (includes contact tracing).
- Close contacts of confirmed cases.

#### **Tier Two Priority**

- All other individuals with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Individuals who are asymptomatic (having no symptoms of COVID 19), who fall into one of the following categories:
  1. Live in higher risk congregate care facilities including skilled nursing facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, correctional facilities, or homeless shelters.
  2. Work in the health care sector who have frequent interactions with the public or with people who may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2. The health care sector includes: hospitals; skilled nursing facilities; long-term care facilities; ambulatory surgery centers; health care providers' offices; health care clinics; pharmacies; blood banks; dialysis centers; hospices; and, home health providers
  3. Work in a congregate care facility, including shelters for people experience homelessness and residential care facilities for the elderly.
  4. Provide care to an elderly person or a person with a disability in the home, including a person providing care through California's In-Home Supportive Services Program.
  5. Work in the emergency services sector who have frequent interactions with the public or with people who may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2. The emergency services sector includes police

- and public safety departments, fire departments, and emergency service response operations.
6. Work in a correctional facility.
  7. Patients requiring pre-operative/pre-hospital admission screening.
  8. Patients being discharged from hospitals to lower levels of care.

### Tier Three Priority

- Individuals who work in the retail or manufacturing sectors who have frequent interactions with the public or who works in an environment where it is not practical to maintain at least six feet of space from other workers on a consistent basis.
- Individuals who work in the food services sector who have frequent interactions with the public. The food services sector includes grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, and grocery or meal delivery services.
- Individuals who work in the agricultural or food manufacturing sector who have frequent interactions with the public or who works in an environment where it is not practical to maintain at least six feet of space from other workers on a consistent basis. The agricultural or food manufacturing sector includes food production and processing facilities, slaughter facilities, harvesting sites or facilities, and food packing facilities.
- Individuals who work in the public transportation sector who have frequent interactions with the public. The public transportation sector includes public transit, passenger rail service, passenger ferry service, public airports, and commercial airlines.
- Individuals who work in the education sector who have frequent interactions with students or the public. The education sector includes public and private childcare establishments; public and private pre-kindergarten programs; primary and secondary schools; and public and private colleges and universities.

### Tier Four Priority

Tier Four would be implemented when the state's testing turnaround time, as monitored by CDPH, is less than 48 hours.

- Other individuals not specified above including: those who are asymptomatic but believe they have a risk for being actively infected as well as routine testing by employers.

## Testing Discrimination and Inappropriate Workplace Testing

As modifications are made to public health directives and more sectors of the economy open with adaptations, it is important that employers do not use testing to impermissibly discriminate against employees who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 (such as by preventing them from resuming work after they can do so in a manner consistent with public health and safety). This does not mean an employer must allow an employee who currently has COVID-19 to return to work before the employee's infection is resolved. **Further, because PCR tests can remain positive long after an individual is no longer infectious, proof of a negative test should not be required prior to returning to the workplace after documented COVID infection.** Rather, symptom- or protocol-based criteria should be used in determining when an employee is safe to return to the workplace.

## Types of Tests

### Diagnostic Tests

Assesses the presence of the virus at a given point in time. A negative means only that an individual was negative at the time the test.

- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Tests and Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing: Detects the RNA genetic material in the COVID-19 virus and are often collected via nasal pharyngeal, mid turbinate, nasal, oral or throat swab or saliva collection.
- Antigen Tests: Not currently widely utilized. Detects the presence of COVID-19 specific protein particles and is collected via a respiratory sample.

**Note:** No test is perfect. There is a false negative rate and false positive rate that varies depending on the test and the collection modality

### Non-Diagnostic Tests

- Serology (Antibody) Tests: Detect antibodies in the blood indicating possible prior exposure to COVID-19, which may develop 6-14 days after infection. Please see CDPH guidance on Serology Tests for further information.
- **Note:** Commercially available antibody tests have variable performance—see FDA EUA Authorized Serology Test Performance Website.

**Reminder - These are statewide guidelines. Local jurisdictions may modify these guidelines to account for local conditions or patterns of transmission.**

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