

Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs

For people (e.g., children, care providers, or staff) who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, send home or deny entry and reference the exclusion criteria in this document to determine when they may return.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include: new onset cough or shortness of breath by themselves OR at least 2 of the following: fever (100.4°F or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea.

If a person has a new symptom (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing.

For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19

[What to do if you're waiting for COVID-19 test results \(PDF\)](#)
www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf

Positive test result: Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days from last exposure.

Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis: Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days from last exposure.

For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis *without* a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 *without* a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)

Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 1 day without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days from last exposure.



For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition

Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider or follow the [Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual](#) (www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual).

If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider to determine next steps.

Siblings and household members do not need to stay home.

Ongoing exposure in households. A positive or probable COVID-19 case should isolate from the rest of the household, if possible. The 14 day quarantine for household members starts 14 days since the last day of contact with the infected individual. If isolation cannot happen then the 14 days begins after the infected individual has surpassed their 10 day quarantine.