

COVID-19 UPDATE

March 17, 2020

UPDATES

- Launched website Publichealthsbcc.org
- Current stats: 2 confirmed cases
- Newly created community testing criteria

WEBSITE

- Launched website: <https://publichealthsb.org/>
- Under *Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Daily Status Report: (As of 3/16/2020)*
 - 128 tests
 - 31 negatives
 - 96 pending
 - 2 positive

COMMUNITY CRITERIA FOR TESTING

- Jointly created by local health care partners.
- Sent to all providers
- Commitment to use process

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|---------------|---|
| Tier 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patients who are hospitalized or severely ill, regardless of age or comorbidities• Symptomatic health care workers, including emergency medical services (EMS) and other first responders• Symptomatic Individuals residing in congregate living facilities (e.g. jails, shelters, long-term care facilities) |
| Tier 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Symptomatic persons 60 and older with comorbidities, especially those with cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, chronic respiratory disease, hypertension, and cancer• Please use the attached COVID-19 Testing Triage Tool |
| Tier 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All other patients not included in Tier 1 and Tier 2 as testing capacity and supplies are available• Please use the attached COVID-19 Testing Triage Tool |

TESTING & HOME CARE INFO

- Highlights from a document
- Currently both patient sampling supplies and laboratory testing availability is limited, and reserved for those who meet the criteria. (1700 tests as of today)

Anticipate more availability to occur in the coming weeks. To assure vulnerable patients most at risk receive testing, local health care providers developed the following questions. This will help decide if priority testing is needed:

1. *Do you have a fever of 100.4 or greater?*
 2. *Do you have a new cough?*
 3. *Do you have shortness of breath or pain taking a breath?*
- *If you answer no to all three questions, you are not currently a candidate for testing and should not go to any health care facility to ask for testing at this time. We are asking all community members to follow these instructions so that the most vulnerable residents can be tested and receive the care they need. If you are sick please follow the home care guidelines below.*

TESTING & HOME CARE INFO

If you answer yes to any of the questions, contact your healthcare provider and let them know you may be a candidate for testing. The provider may ask an additional series of questions to determine if you will be tested including:

- Are you 60 years of age or older?
- Have you traveled to one of the affected areas?
- Have you had close contact with someone who has COVID-19?
- Do you have lung disease?
- Do you have a medical condition like diabetes, heart disease or cancer?
- Do you have a condition that lowers your immunity?
- Do you work in a healthcare or residential care facility?

All this will be taken into consideration, along with ruling out other sources of illness, prior to testing.

TESTING & HOME CARE INFO

- If you are tested, the results may not be available for 3 to 6 days.
- As a result, you will need to remain in isolation at home until your test results are known.
- This means you should not go to school, work, shopping, or to any public area until you have been cleared by your provider with a confirmed negative COVID -19 test result.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TESTED/NOT TESTED ILL PERSONS

- **STAY HOME**, Self-Isolate, and monitor for symptoms:
 - fever 100.4, cough, shortness of breath
- **If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately.** In adults, emergency warning signs may include:
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
 - Extreme fatigue or new confusion
 - Bluish lips or face

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TESTED/NOT TESTED ILL PERSONS

- **Restrict activities outside your home.** Do not have visitors at your home. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.
- If symptoms worsens, and are not resolved with over the counter medication, call your Primary Care Provider (PCP) and they will determine if you need testing for COVID-19 and refer you as needed.
- If you have a medical emergency, call 911 and notify the dispatch personnel of your symptoms.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TESTED/NOT TESTED ILL PERSONS

Other general guidelines:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Clean your hands often
- Avoid sharing personal household items
- Clean all “high-touch” surfaces everyday

Q & A?