

# Piedmont Ambulatory Screening and Testing Requirements for COVID-19

The Piedmont COVID-19 Command Center physician expert panel has determined that Piedmont will change the strategy around testing of COVID-19 in the ambulatory setting to align with CDC and DPH recommendations. PHC ambulatory practices will give the same guidance as DPH and CDC for patients that do not require hospitalization. As a result, **Piedmont is requiring that testing NOT be performed in our ambulatory setting for patients presenting with mild or no symptoms at this time.** These patients should be advised to stay home and self-isolate.

Hospitalization Required?	Clinical Features	Risk Factors	Initiate SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19) Testing?	Next Steps for the Patient?
Not requiring hospitalization	Asymptomatic	Exposed	<b>NO</b>	Patients who are <b>asymptomatic</b> but have a <b>known exposure</b> should stay at home (self-quarantine) for 14 days. During self-quarantine, patients should monitor themselves for fever (>100), cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath and consult their provider if symptoms worsen.
	Mild symptoms of acute respiratory infection	None	<b>NO</b>	Treat patient according to clinical judgement
		High-risk comorbidities OR travel to high risk areas OR close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<b>NO</b>	Patients with <b>mild symptoms</b> should stay at home (self-isolate) for 7 days and until they have been symptom free for at least 72 hours
Requiring hospitalization	Moderate or severe symptoms of acute respiratory infection		<b>Yes</b>	<b>Send patient to ER</b>

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## Who should be tested?

Piedmont will test patients suspected to have COVID-19 who require hospitalization.

## Who is not recommended to be tested?

Providers should not test any patients managed in the outpatient setting:

- Patients who are **asymptomatic** but have a **known exposure** should stay at home (self-quarantine) for 14 days. During self-quarantine, patients should monitor themselves for fever (>100), cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath and consult their provider if symptoms worsen.
- Patients with **mild symptoms** should stay at home (self-isolate) for 7 days and until they have been symptom free for at least 72 hours

**Patients who present to outpatient locations with moderate or severe symptoms should be directed to the Emergency Department immediately. The recommendation is that ED providers will not order COVID-19 test; this decision is up to the admitting provider who would need to follow the algorithm.**