

Piedmont Inpatient Testing Criteria for COVID-19

Currently, the United States has **limited testing options** for COVID-19. Because of limited diagnostic and isolation resources, appropriate use of COVID-19 testing is imperative. Piedmont created this system-wide algorithm for testing to:

- 1) encourage the conservation of testing and isolation resources
- 2) Correctly identify COVID-19 in at-risk patients
- 3) prevent nosocomial spread to patients and staff.

With your help, we can ensure that the right patients get the right test the right way.

Hospitalization Required?	Clinical Features	Risk Factors	Initiate SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19) Testing?
Not requiring hospitalization	Asymptomatic	Exposed	No
	Mild symptoms of acute respiratory infection	None	
		High-risk comorbidities or travel to high risk areas or close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case	
Requiring hospitalization	Moderate or severe symptoms of acute respiratory infection		Yes

Which inpatient should be tested?

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

- **Critically Ill/ICU patients** – prioritize COVID-19 testing through DPH; use airborne + contact + eye shield isolation precautions
- **Non-critically Ill patients** – COVID-19 testing through DPH or Quest; use standard + droplet + contact + eye shield isolation precautions

Who is not recommended to be tested?

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

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.