

UW Medicine SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Testing Criteria for Patients
(for frontline staff, please refer to FAQ for Staff with Acute Respiratory Infections)

Clinical Features	High Risk Factors	SARS-CoV-2 Testing?
Asymptomatic		No
Symptoms of acute respiratory infection (such as fever, new cough, new shortness of breath, myalgias, etc.) And does NOT require hospitalization *Consider testing SPECIAL POPULATIONS listed below	None	No
Symptoms of acute respiratory infection (such as fever, new cough, new shortness of breath, myalgias, etc.) +	Any of the following in the last 14 days before symptom onset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel to affected areas¹ • Close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case² • Has spent time at skilled nursing facilities (including Life Care Center in Kirkland) 	Yes ³
Symptoms of acute respiratory infection (such as fever, new cough, new shortness of breath, myalgias, etc.) requiring hospitalization		Yes ³

¹ **UW Medicine Current Outbreak List:** Please refer to the [UW Medicine Website](#).

² **Close contact:** Approximately 6 feet of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time; close contact can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a healthcare waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case or having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

³ **SARS-CoV-2 sample collection:** Nasopharyngeal swabs often generate a strong cough reflex. Standard/Contact/Droplet precautions are recommended. Please remember to collect samples from both nostrils, using the same swab. For additional instructions, please refer to Sample Collection for COVID19 Testing on our [UW Medicine Website](#). Also, please review [UW Laboratory Test Guide](#) for ordering details.

***Special Populations:** Please refer to the Immunocompromised Protocol (for SCCA and Solid Organ Transplant (SOT) patients) and the Pregnancy Protocol, both on our [UW Medicine Website](#). Other special populations include patients on other immunosuppressive therapy, advanced HIV (CD4+ <200), people living with immunocompromised patients, people living homeless or in congregate facilities (e.g., shelters, jail, SNF, prison, adult family home).