

COVID-19 Clinical Testing Recommendations for Childcare and School Aged Children

Consider SARS-CoV-2 for patients with major symptoms or 1 or more minor symptoms. *Clinicians may elect to test with any low-risk symptom due to high clinical suspicion, community spread, etc.*

These recommendations are subject to change as new research or guidelines are available from CDC or CDPHE.

While tests are pending, isolate the patient away from others until test results are received.

Critical Symptom: New loss of taste or smell (pathognomonic positive COVID)

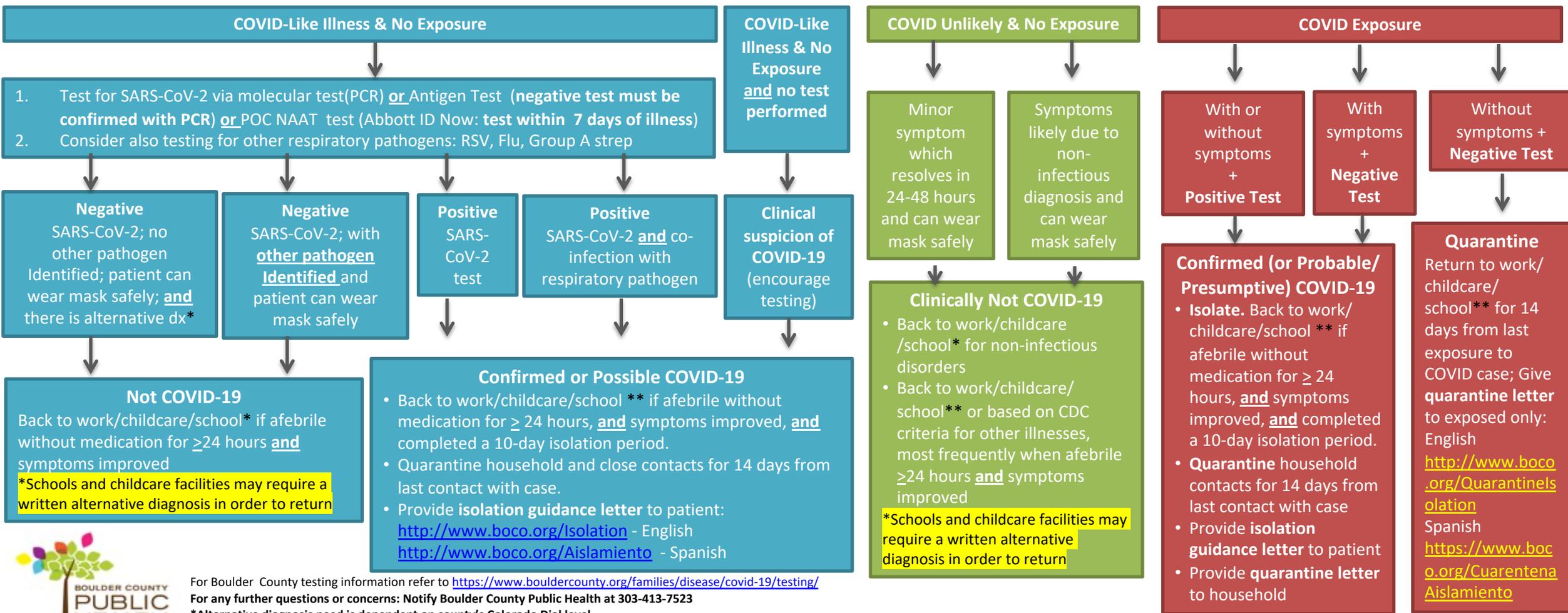
Major Symptoms

Feeling feverish, having chills, temp of 100.4 or greater;
New or worsening cough; Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

OR

Minor Symptoms

Sore throat; Runny nose or congestion; Muscle or body aches; Fatigue; Headache;
Nausea/Vomiting; Diarrhea



For Boulder County testing information refer to <https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19/testing/>

For any further questions or concerns: Notify Boulder County Public Health at 303-413-7523

*Alternative diagnosis need is dependent on county's Colorado Dial level

**For specific school or childcare guidance refer to <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gQLqxzsJH1tBbmHwoTyalGr48XrZ0Deb/view>



Isolation: staying home from work, school, and activities when a person is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19.

- Isolation lasts for at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms-- and for 24 hours after being fever-free without the aid of fever reducing medication and if the person shows an improvement of symptoms.
- For people who have not had symptoms, isolation lasts 10 days from the day they had their first positive test. In rare instances (for example, if a person was very sick or has certain medical problems), isolation may last 20 days.
- All patients in Isolation receive the following guidance letter:
 - <http://www.boco.org/Isolation> - English
 - <http://www.boco.org/Aislamiento> - Spanish

Public health experts do not recommend repeat testing to decide when to end the period of isolation except in rare circumstances in consultation with a medical provider.

Quarantine: staying home from work, school, and/or activities after a person was in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

- Quarantine lasts for 14 days (unless the person develops symptoms, then they will be put in isolation).
- Recommend those quarantined and exposed to COVID-19 get tested on Day 7 from exposure for the most accurate test results
- Negative tests should not be used to release a person from quarantine.
- All patients (or household members exposed to a COVID positive patient) in Quarantine receive the following guidance letter:
 - <http://www.boco.org/QuarantineIsolation> - English
 - <https://www.boco.org/CuarentenaAislamiento> - Spanish

Close contact is defined as a person who:

- was within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 (even if they did not have symptoms) for at least 15 minutes cumulative – even when both parties are wearing masks
- provided care for someone who is sick with COVID-19
- had direct physical contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19
- shared eating or drinking utensils with someone who is sick with COVID-19
- got exposed to respiratory droplets from someone who is sick with COVID-19 (through sneezing, coughing, shouting, etc.)
- was in the same class/cohort as a person with COVID-19
 - Example: a person who was within close proximity in a cardiovascular activity with a person with COVID-19

Public Health Definitions (subject to change per CDPHE):

Confirmed case of COVID-19: Case who has tested positive using a molecular amplification test (such as PCR)

Probable case of COVID- 19:

- Meets clinical criteria with 1 major symptom or two minor symptoms AND meets close contact definition above with no confirmatory laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 **or**
- Has tested positive using an antigen test in a respiratory specimen, with report date on or after 8/17/2020 **or**
- Has a death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 as an underlying cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for COVID-19

Antigen test:

- A test that detects specific, small pieces of the virus in the nose or mouth; The sample is collected on a swab or in a test tube and is usually analyzed on-site with results coming back in a few minutes.
- ***If the test is positive it is very likely that a person has COVID-19*** because this test looks for specific pieces of the virus,
- ***If the antigen test is negative a person still may have COVID-19***, because the test may miss an infection.
- ***if the antigen test is negative. a health care provider may send a PCR test to confirm the result***

PCR test:

- A test that detects genetic material from a virus in the nose or mouth. The sample is collected on a swab or in a test tube which is sent to a lab for analysis. The test usually takes a few days to come back.
- This test is very sensitive and can be used to determine whether or not a person has COVID-19. False negatives do happen where the virus is not always detected, which is why clinical impression is imperative