COVID-19 Interim Testing Guidance for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
April 14, 2020

**Purpose:** This interim guidance supports COVID-19 testing for high-risk Illinoisans with symptoms. As COVID-19 testing becomes more available, IDPH will continue to expand testing to priority groups. Together, the expansion of testing will help reduce the transmission of the disease and improve health outcomes.

**Higher-Risk Groups with SYMPTOMS of COVID-19:** Expansion to one or more groups at a time may be possible. For all groups, testing would only be conducted for individuals who have COVID-19-consistent symptoms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High-Risk Groups</th>
<th>Opportunities for Action / Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td>• Individuals would be tested who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and are in temporary shelter/housing served by FQHC partners (e.g., FQHCs working with homeless shelter(s) to diagnose individuals who tested positive and are staying at alternate housing sites)</td>
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| **Group 2**      | • Individuals would be tested who are current or new patients at the participating FQHCs, have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and have known exposure to individuals who have tested COVID-19-positive or have COVID-19-consistent symptoms  
• FQHCs could consider outreach to current patients/families, to alert them to availability of testing for individuals with COVID-19-consistent symptoms and known contacts |
| **Group 3**      | • Individuals would be tested who are current or new patients at the participating FQHCs, have chronic cardiovascular disease, lung disease, diabetes or immunosuppressive conditions, and have symptoms consistent with COVID-19  
• FQHCs could consider outreach to current patients/families with known chronic conditions, to alert them to availability of testing for individuals with COVID-19-consistent symptoms |
| **Group 4**      | • Individuals would be tested who are current or new patients at the participating FQHCs, and have symptoms consistent with COVID-19  
• Health care workers and first responders are already prioritized for testing |

Please also see [IDPH Clinical and Public Health Guidance for Managing COVID-19](#)