

COVID-19 Testing Capabilities

March 30, 2020

In Ohio, healthcare providers have been asked to reserve testing for the severely ill, hospitalized patients and healthcare workers as there is a shortage of tests available. At this time, you should not assume that you will be tested unless your symptoms progress enough to require hospitalization. Please contact your medical provider to discuss any symptoms related to Coronavirus/COVID-19, which can include fever, a new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, and muscle pain or fatigue.

If you do not have a doctor, you may call Pomerene Hospital's Coronavirus/COVID-19 Hotline at (330) 763-2055 to talk to a medical professional who can assess your symptoms and advise you on next steps. If there is a need for further evaluation, you may be directed to Pomerene's drive-thru screening where it will be determined if you require testing.

What should I do if I am sick and cannot be tested?

If you are not tested, you should isolate yourself. This means you should stay home and keep a distance from other members of the household. Use a separate bathroom and sleeping area, if possible. Continue taking precautions such as washing hands for 20 seconds, covering your cough, and disinfecting high-touch areas often.

When can I return to work or leave my house?

You can leave home after **ALL THREE** of these things have happened:

1. You have had **NO fever for at least 72 hours** without the use of medicine that reduces fevers;
AND
2. Other **symptoms have improved** (example, cough and/or shortness of breath have improved);
AND
3. At least **7 days have passed** since your symptoms first started

What if someone in my house is sick?

Stay home and self-monitor for 14 days. Take your temperature 2 times per day and watch for symptoms of fever and cough. If the person in your home recovers prior to the 14 days, you may leave your home. Continue social distancing and monitor for signs and symptoms for the full 14 days.

What if my symptoms worsen?

Seek immediate medical attention if your symptoms do not improve or worsen. Call ahead before visiting the doctor's office, urgent care or hospital.