



Hood River County Environmental Health Department

1109 June Street, Hood River OR 97031

Office: 541-387-6885, Fax: 541-386-9181

Provider Update COVID-19

Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020

To: All Providers

From: Patricia Elliott, RN, Director

Hood River County Health Department

Office: 541-386-1115

After Hours Emergency Contact: 541-386-2711

Contained in this Update:

Updated testing recommendations – as of 3/3/2020

Local outpatient testing process – TBD

Link to CDC information on home care for persons not needing to hospitalization

PPE Shortage and Optimizing N-95 masks

Updated testing recommendations:

All testing must be pre-approved by OHA through the Local Public Health Authority. Hood River County Health Department contact information is listed above, including after-hours emergency number.

Person Under Monitoring (PUM)

A person who is asymptomatic with an epidemiologic exposure to COVID-19 virus. Exposure may include close contact* with confirmed case, exposure to respiratory secretions or clinical specimens of positive cases, or travel history within 14 days to affected areas***

Person Under Investigation (PUI) (Suspect Case)

A PUI is a person with:

Definition	Clinical Features		Epidemiologic Risk
A	Fever* -or- Symptoms of lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath)	and	In the 14 days before symptom onset, close contact** with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient.
B	Fever* -and- Symptoms of lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization	and	In the 14 days before symptom onset, a history of travel from affected geographic areas***
C	Fever* with severe acute lower respiratory illness (pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., flu)	and	No source of exposure has been identified.

Measured to be >100.4° F (38° C) or subjective fever may not be present in some patients, such as the very young, elderly, immunosuppressed, or those taking antipyretics. Clinical judgment should be used to guide testing of patients in such situations.



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**Close contact is defined as:

- Being within 6 feet of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (1 hour or more). Close contact can include caring for, living with, visiting, or sitting within 6 feet of a confirmed novel coronavirus patient in a healthcare waiting area, or on an airplane.
- Having direct contact with infectious secretions of a novel coronavirus case (e.g., being coughed on) If such contact occurs while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator, eye protection), criteria for PUI consideration are met.

***Affected geographic areas with widespread or sustained community transmission:

- China
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- South Korea

These criteria provide a strategy for evaluation but aren't set in stone. Patients should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and discussion with ACDP and LPHAs if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g., uncertain travel or exposure history).

Local outpatient testing process of PUIs in Category A will follow. At this time, there are no available testing options for outpatients in Hood River County.

Home Care for Persons with COVID-19 who do not Require Hospitalization

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-home-care.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html>

Strategies for Optimizing PPE Use

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/checklist-n95-strategy.html>

Shortage of PPE

I have heard concern that providers are running short of PPE. Please take inventory, and ensure that you have instituted the above measures for optimizing PPE use. We can make a request through Emergency Management and OHA to access stockpile PPE supplies. Please designate **1** person from your practice to send an email (healthrecipients@co.hood-river.or.us) outlining your needs, and if you have taken the steps listed above. We may need to get more information before submitting a request. Please have them respond by **3/10/2020** at 4 pm. I am not guaranteeing that we will receive any or all supplies.

For the most up-to-date information, please see the following website. These will be updated in real time:

Oregon Health Authority:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/emerging-respiratory-infections.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>