

IU Health launches COVID-19 testing

March 19, 2020

This week, IU Health achieved an important milestone. Our Molecular Diagnostics Lab launched internal testing for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). This is a game-changer, as the faster we know who has the disease, the better and more efficient our response. It greatly accelerates our ability to identify COVID-19 patients, provide appropriate care and isolation measures, protect our team members and manage our personal protective equipment.

Currently, the number of people who can be tested is limited, with priority given to high-risk, seriously ill patients and health care workers who may have been exposed to the virus. Knowing who is infected--and who isn't--allows us to ensure our team members receive care if needed, and that our workforce does not pose a risk to our patients or each other.

Here are key points for IU Health leaders:

- IU Health providers can now order the test through Cerner
- For team members who need testing, they should be directed to the IU Health Virtual Screening Clinic, [using these instructions](#) to identify themselves as an IU Health team member when they log in. Screeners will evaluate and prioritize requests. If it is determined the team member should be tested, an order will be placed and they will be given instructions on how to provide a sample for testing.
- If a team member screens positive, they will be given information on how to submit a sample for testing. To expedite testing for team members, and minimize the risk to others in our facilities, IU Health has established an off-site COVID-19 specimen collection location in central Indianapolis for team members who screen positive through the virtual hub. This location is not open to all team members or to the general public.
- If a team member is referred for testing and can't go to the Indianapolis collection site, the virtual hub can provide alternative options for how to submit a sample for testing.