Orange County COVID-19 Testing Recommendations, Testing Supplies, PPE Resources and Testing Locations as of April 28, 2020

COVID-19 Testing Recommendations

Testing for SARS CoV-2 is becoming more widely available in Orange County. Dr. Nichole Quick, the Orange County Health Care Agency's Health Officer, released updated recommendations for COVID-19 testing in Orange County on April 27, 2020. The full recommendations can be found here: link.
Based on the increase in available personal protective equipment (PPE), testing supplies and lab capacity:

- **Recommendations for testing of symptomatic persons:**
  - ◊ **All individuals should be considered for testing when they develop symptoms of COVID-19.**
  - ◊ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) consider the following to be symptoms of COVID-19:
    - ∗ Cough
    - ∗ Shortness of breath
    - ∗ Or at least two of these symptoms:
      - ♦ Fever
      - ♦ Chills
      - ♦ Repeated shaking with chills
      - ♦ Muscle pain
      - ♦ Headache
      - ♦ Sore throat
      - ♦ New loss of taste or smell
  - ◊ Mildly symptomatic persons should be referred to community testing sites, such as drive-through events, if possible, to prevent exposure in a clinical setting and to preserve PPE.
  - ◊ Providers can contact the Orange County **Communicable Disease Control Division at 714-834-8180 for questions or concerns.**
- **Recommendations for testing of asymptomatic persons:**
  - ◊ Testing of asymptomatic persons is most useful when used to control outbreaks in distinct groups, such as residents or staff of congregate living settings like skilled nursing or assisted living facilities or correctional facilities.
  - ◊ The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) also recommends testing of hospitalized asymptomatic patients prior to entry into skilled nursing facilities to prevent outbreaks in these settings.
- **Serologic Testing**
  - ◊ The clinical value of serologic antibody testing has not been clearly demonstrated. Serologic testing should not be used routinely to assess patients for acute infection or long-term immunity.

Updated 4/29/20

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Testing Supplies

Many Orange County health care professionals are faced with several challenges when trying to obtain testing supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE). CalOptima would like to remind providers having difficulty accessing needed PPE and identifying alternate ways to provide member care of the following:
- Continue ordering testing kits through commercial labs and PPE via your usual vendors.
- If providers are having trouble filling orders for testing kits or PPE, contact the Orange County Health Care Agency (OC HCA) Agency Operations Center (AOC) by visiting: http://www.healthdisasteroc.org/ems/health_emergency_management/hca_agency_operations_center

COVID-19 Testing Locations

Providers having a member diagnosed as needing COVID-19 testing but are unable to do the test themselves, should:
- Refer members to their assigned health network's testing site.
  ◊ Members or providers may contact the member's assigned health network for testing site information.
  ◊ The member's assigned health network can be found on their CalOptima ID card or by calling CalOptima's Customer Service department.
  ◊ Testing sites may require clinical evaluation and/or provider referral prior to testing.
- If the member's assigned health network does not have a testing site, the provider may refer the member to the OC COVID-19 Testing Network website located at: www.https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening

Orange County COVID-19 Testing Network
- The OC COVID-10 Testing Network was set up by the county to supplement testing already being provided by Orange County providers and hospitals.
- Members must first contact their primary care provider (PCP) and health network and only access services through the OC COVID-19 Testing Network if the PCP/health network is unable to provide testing.
- There is no out-of-pocket cost and is open to all Orange County residents regardless of insurance status.
- Because of continued challenges of obtaining testing supplies and PPE, testing may be restricted at times to high priority groups.
- Members **MUST** make an appointment for testing with one of the clinics in the network to assure eligibility and availability of testing.
- Information regarding the Orange County COVID-19 Testing Network can be found by visiting https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening.

To access this update and additional provider communications regarding COVID-19, visit: https://www.caloptima.org/en/Features/COVID-19/ProviderCommunication.aspx.