

Title: BILH SARS-CoV-2 PCR Testing Prioritization Strategy for Patients and Staff

Purpose: To outline prioritization of testing for SARS-CoV-2 by routine nasopharyngeal PCR among symptomatic patients and healthcare personnel, as well as populations for asymptomatic screening.

Guideline Statement: COVID-19 is caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2. Due to anticipated volume of SARS-CoV-2 testing needs, tests will be prioritized by risk to other patients and staff, to the individual patient and necessary turnaround time in order to facilitate urgent management.

Please maintain Droplet Precautions with eye protection and Contact Precautions for inpatients while a diagnosis of COVID-19 is being considered (Private Room Required)

Priority Level	Type of Patient	Lab
1	<p>Symptomatic patients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inpatients ED patients with planned admission Pregnant persons of any gestational age <p>Asymptomatic patients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pregnant persons within expectation of delivery in the next 48 hours or on admission Patients admitted from high-risk congregate settings (i.e., nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, homeless shelters, group homes) Patients getting admitted to inpatient psychiatric unit 	BIDMC
2	Symptomatic healthcare personnel, including first responders	BIDMC
3	<p>Symptomatic outpatients with high-risk healthcare contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients receiving hemodialysis at a dialysis center Patients receiving infusions at a hospital-based practice or home infusion with VNA Patients receiving chemotherapy with a high likelihood of admission Patients receiving radiation therapy Patients on the transplant list or with a history of solid organ transplant or bone marrow transplant within the last year Patients with ventricular assist devices <p>Asymptomatic patients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients 48 hours prior to all scheduled operative procedures Patients 48 hours prior to scheduled high-risk non-operative procedures 	BIDMC
4	<p>Symptomatic patients from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congregate settings as outpatients (nursing homes, homeless shelters, group homes, dormitories, etc.) Densely populated communities with known clusters of infection (i.e. Chelsea, Dorchester, Brockton) 	Commercial Lab
5	<p>Symptomatic outpatients with other high-risk conditions <i>without</i> high-risk healthcare contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic lung (such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD] and cystic fibrosis) Endocrine (such as diabetes mellitus) Cardiac disease (such as congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease) Hematologic malignancy Immunosuppression (due to disease or medication) Liver disease Chronic kidney disease (other than on hemodialysis) Age>60 Extreme obesity (BMI ≥40) 	Commercial Lab
6	All other symptomatic outpatients	Commercial Lab