NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

COVID-19 diagnostic testing for essential workers

Testing plays a major role in fighting COVID-19 — for your health, the health of our communities, and to help safely reopen businesses, schools, and more. Information about tests is changing often and while testing supplies across the nation have been limited, we have been able to expand testing over the past several weeks.

We recommend getting a diagnostic test if you currently have symptoms of COVID-19. If the test shows you're infected, you should isolate to help prevent spread. Testing also helps public health agencies monitor the spread of the disease.

In addition to members with symptoms, Kaiser Permanente is currently testing asymptomatic individuals, including essential workers.

To self-schedule a diagnostic test for COVID-19 you can complete an e-visit or message your doctor's office on kp.org (sign-in required). For an e-visit, members need to choose Coronavirus/COVID-19 concerns and select the response that best describes their job as an essential worker. Test results are usually available in 2 to 3 business days.

Frequency of testing

Kaiser Permanente continues to comply with all state and local public health guidance on testing frequency.

Essential workers

Based on Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) guidelines, essential workers are people with frequent interactions with the public or with people who may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2 in the following industries:

- Public transportation
- Corrections
- Retail and manufacturing
- Emergency services
- First responders
- Food services
- Agricultural or food manufacturing
- Health care sector
- Congregate care
- In-home supportive services
- Education

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business.kp.org/coronavirus

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Getting tested outside of Kaiser Permanente

In addition to testing available through Kaiser Permanente, members may choose to be tested at an external licensed, independent facility (for example, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, or other retail locations or at a private lab). Many of these facilities bill Kaiser Permanente directly, so members may not have to pay anything out of pocket. If charged, members should go to kp.org/coverageandcosts and follow these steps to request reimbursement for a COVID-19 test taken outside Kaiser Permanente:

1. Below "Helpful resources," click "Submit a claim."

2. Below "Claim forms," click the PDF to download. (If you're redirected to our Claim Services website, select "Documents and Forms" from the Resources menu and then download the medical claim form.)

3. Fill out the form and then mail it to the address listed on the form.

Employers may prefer to engage with a lab vendor (such as Quest or LabCorp or another licensed lab vendor) to provide testing for employees. If so, please have the lab submit claims directly to Kaiser Permanente via existing claims submission processes. Kaiser Permanente will provide reimbursement for the cost of the test as long as it is conducted by a licensed facility.

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