

MCG message

Title: **MDHHS COVID – 19 test criteria expansion**

Posting start date: 4/15/2020

The Michigan department of Health and Human Services announced it is expanding COVID-19 testing criteria to include individuals with mild symptoms. The state's COVID-19 website now includes a [test location finder \[michigan.gov\]](#) powered by health data company *Castlight*.

This follows the state's announcement that more drive-through testing facilities will be available and are or will be located in Michigan (between Gaylord and Alpena), Bad Axe, Battle Creek, Bay City, Benton Harbor, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Saginaw, and Traverse City.

Michigan's testing priority criteria now includes:

- Hospitalized patients
- Symptomatic healthcare workers
- Patients in congregate facilities with symptoms, including those at:
 - Long-term care or elderly living facilities
 - Jails or prisons
 - Homeless shelters
 - Residential foster care facilities
 - Other group living setting

- Patients age 65 and older with symptoms
- Patients with underlying conditions with symptoms
- First responders with symptoms
- Critical infrastructure workers with symptoms
- **Individuals with mild symptoms**

The state is suggesting individuals who experience symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, contact their healthcare provider, 24/7 nurse hotline or telehealth program provided by their insurance carrier or employer to discuss whether to be evaluated for testing. Each coronavirus test provider will determine if testing is appropriate based on symptoms and test availability in their area.

If you have any questions please contact your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive.