

COVID-19 Test Ordering Guidance for VMG Clinicians

March 27, 2020

Instructions for COVID-19 testing of VUMC adult patients by a VUMC provider for symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e. via telehealth, at a clinic visit, etc.):

1. Carefully assess patient and only request testing if patient has one of the following: new cough, new shortness of breath, fever, or loss of smell without other neurologic symptoms.
 - a. Do not send asymptomatic patients for testing, even if they report exposure to a COVID-19 patient. Standard of care is testing only symptomatic patients, which helps preserve available testing materials/PPE and improves overall test turnaround time.
 - b. Do NOT send patients who qualify for admission to a testing site. They should be isolated and tested on admission.
2. Enter orders into eStar. Available testing at the VUMC Glenrose COVID-19 testing site includes "SARS-CoV-2 PCR", "Influenza A/B Ag", and "Rapid Strep Group A Ag".
 - a. **Note:** *Any patient who arrives at the VUMC Glenrose COVID-19 testing site without orders will be sent to the VUMC Glenrose COVID-19 assessment site and will undergo another evaluation by a provider. Due to staffing limitations, staff will not contact the source provider to request placement of orders that are not in eStar at the time the patient presents.*
3. Instruct patient to wear a mask, if possible, and present daily between 8 a.m.-7p.m. to the Glenrose COVID-19 testing site located at 2104 Dayton Avenue, Nashville, TN.
 - a. Instruct patient to present to the tent and tell the VUMC Glenrose staff when they arrive that the patient already has orders placed. *This is very important for patient flow.*
 - b. Patients will be given discharge instructions at the site which include information regarding isolation until results of COVID-19 testing available and availability of results of COVID-19 through My Health at Vanderbilt.
 - c. **Note:** *The Glenrose COVID-19 testing site located at 2104 Dayton Avenue, Nashville, TN is the **ONLY** site that is available to test outpatients without performing an onsite evaluation by a provider. Do NOT send patients who have previously been assessed and only need testing to other VUMC COVID-19 assessment locations.*
4. Follow up all test results.
 - a. Treat for influenza or GAS pharyngitis ("strep throat") as indicated.
 - b. For patients who test positive for COVID-19:
 - Instruct patient to self-isolate x 7 days AND until fever free x 72 hours without anti-antipyretics.
 - Conduct telephone and/or telemedicine follow up at least every other day for 14 days after the test was obtained. (If a patient is completely asymptomatic on day 7 after the test was obtained, the patient may be contacted only on day 10 and 14 after the test was obtained.)
 - Patients do not need follow-up COVID-19 testing after a positive result.

Note: VUMC stem cell transplant patients, solid organ transplant patients, patients on active chemotherapy, and patients with primary immune deficiency may be evaluated and tested at the VICC COVID-19 testing site located on the first floor of TVC. Testing only is not available at this location.