

MsgID: 1828
Date: 4/21/2020 11:25:09 AM
From: Southeastern Idaho Public Health
To: Multiple Recipients. See IDHAN Web Site for Complete Recipient list.
Subject: Drive through COVID 19 PCR Testing in Pocatello and Standard Triage Questions
Type: Private
Priority: Advisory
PHIN Status: Actual
Severity: Unknown
PHIN Type: Alert
Delivery Time:: 15 Minutes

Memo

**From: Ronald Solbrig MD Director University Health ISU
Jonathan Cree MD Interim Chair Department of Family Medicine ISU
Maggie Mann Director Southeast Idaho Public Health.**
To: Pocatello Primary Care physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants
Date: 4/21/2020

Re: Drive through COVID 19 PCR Testing in Pocatello and Standard Triage Questions

Southeastern Idaho Public Health and ISU with the help of Express Lab are in the process of setting up a drive-through COVID testing station in the parking lot behind Reed Gym starting Thursday April 24, 2020. 9-4.30 Monday through Friday. We have chosen this site because it is remote from Health Care facilities, housing or places people might be. It basically uses a parking lot and the ground floor of an empty student dormitory. Patients will not leave their cars.

If you wish to test your patients **who are symptomatic**, you need to fax an order to Express Labs at **208 523-3318**. The fax needs to have your name, address, fax number and signature as ordering physician, the name and date of birth of the patient, and the order stating nasopharyngeal swab for **PCR COVID 19**. The patient will need to have their driver's license and either a health insurance card or a credit card payment of \$95.00. Express Labs will take pictures of the driver's license and health insurance and credit card, set up a demographic file for your patient, and get the results back to you (and the patients if they request) in 48-72 hours. They call positive results to the provider and Health Department.

To assist you, below are the screening questions for COVID-19 symptoms, based on the Mayo Clinic Online COVID 19 Self-Assessment Tool. Measured fever of 100.5 or above, or new chills, new onset shortness of breath, cough, muscle aches, diarrhea, sore throat, loss of or change in smell or taste. Separately, you may ask if they have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, which is unlikely as testing has been difficult to get locally.

Up until now, our patients have not had access to testing unless they are hospitalized and severely ill or if their physicians office has managed to get their hands on some tests. This initiative is to make testing available to **symptomatic** patients in Pocatello and the surrounding areas. We are starting with 1000 tests being made available by Express Labs. We do not have enough tests for the asymptomatic worried. Thank you for triaging and ordering the tests on your symptomatic patients. Patients who do not have an established physician will be triaged by the Southeast Idaho Public Health District triage line, with testing ordered through their staff physician. Some funding is available for uninsured patients.

If you feel your patient needs an office assessment or televideo appointment, of course that is up to you. Those patients severely ill, with severe dyspnea, weakness, new onset chest pain etc you would triage as usual to the emergency room.