



MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: March 24, 2020
EVENT: Kenosha County Emergency Management COVID-19 Virus
LOCATION: County of Kenosha

The Kenosha County Division of Health would like to remind citizens of the following with regard to getting tested for COVID-19:

Under guidelines from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, you will be given priority for testing if you fall into Tier 1 and Tier 2

Tier One:

- The patient is critically ill and receiving ICU level care with unexplained viral pneumonia or respiratory failure
- The patient is hospitalized (non-ICU) with fever or signs and symptoms of lower respiratory tract illness (cough, shortness of breath)
- The patient has had known exposure to a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient

Tier Two:

- Hospitalized (non-ICU) patients and long-term care residents with unexplained fever AND signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory tract illness
- Health care workers with unexplained fever AND signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory tract illness, regardless of hospitalization

You will not be given priority if you fall into Tier 3 and Tier 4:

Tier Three:

- The patient is in an outpatient setting and meets the criteria for influenza testing. This includes individuals with co-morbid conditions including diabetes, COPD, congestive heart failure, age >50, immunocompromised hosts among others
- Health care workers with mild upper respiratory symptoms (rhinorrhea, congestion, sore throat) without fever

Tier Four:

- Other patients, as directed by public health or infection control authorities (e.g. community surveillance or public health investigations)

These patients will not be tested:

- Patients without symptoms
- Patients with mild upper respiratory symptoms only who are not health care workers

Anyone who has a question regarding COVID-19 self-care, dial 2-1-1 or visit the 2-1-1 website, <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org>. This is a free, multilingual service available to all Kenosha County residents 24/7.

Together, we can and will slow the spread of the Covid-19 virus.