

Anyone can get tested for COVID-19 BUT SHOULD THEY?

FACT

80% of people who get COVID-19 will have mild to moderate symptoms and recover without medical care.

FACT

A positive test for the virus that causes COVID-19 will not change your healthcare provider's recommendations for medical care unless you are very sick and require hospitalization.

FACT

A negative test result does not mean you will not get COVID-19.

FACT

The demand for testing by people who are not very sick is putting a strain on healthcare systems.

FACT

Test materials and personal protective equipment are needed to care for the very sick requiring hospitalization.

The PEOPLE at GREATEST NEED to be TESTED for the virus that causes COVID-19 are:

People who are hospitalized and have symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) of COVID-19. *This is important for the hospital to manage care of the patient and to protect others.*

People who have symptoms of COVID-19 and are living in, or providing care to residents in, an institutional setting (long-term care facilities, assisted living centers, etc.)

This is important to ensure protection of persons at elevated risk of severe infection.

People who have signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and are healthcare workers.

This is important to protect people who are hospitalized and those who are at higher risk of severe disease.

IF YOU ARE NOT IN THE GROUP ABOVE AND YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE COVID-19, the best thing you can do is stay home for 7 days after your illness started AND your fever is gone AND your symptoms have improved for 72 hours.

See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html> for more steps you can take to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick.



covid.sd.gov

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