Outbreak in a General Public Setting

Does the individual tested have symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

SYMPTOMATIC

POC Antigen Testing

- **POSITIVE**
  - No confirmatory test needed.
  - Isolate/exclude and initiate contact tracing.

- **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
  - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test immediately and test for other respiratory pathogens.
  - Quarantine until RT-PCR results.

  - **RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**
    - Continue isolation/exclusion and initiate contact tracing.

  - **RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**
    - Discontinue quarantine.

ASYMPTOMATIC

POC Antigen Testing

- **POSITIVE**
  - No confirmatory test needed.
  - Isolate/exclude and initiate contact tracing.

- **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
  - Consider confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test within 48 hours.
  - If RT-PCR test performed, quarantine until results received.

  - **RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**
    - Isolate/exclude and initiate contact tracing.

  - **RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**
    - Discontinue isolation/exclusion.
Does the individual tested have symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

**SYMPTOMATIC**

POC Antigen Testing

- **POSITIVE**
  - No confirmatory test needed.
  - Isolate/exclude and initiate outbreak response.

- **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
  - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test immediately and test for other respiratory pathogens.
  - Quarantine until RT-PCR results.

  - **RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**
    - Continue isolation/exclusion and initiate outbreak response.

  - **RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**
    - Discontinue isolation/exclusion.

- **POSITIVE**
  - No confirmatory test needed.
  - Isolate/exclude.

  - **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
    - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test immediately and test for other respiratory pathogens.

  - **RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**
    - Continue isolation/exclusion and initiate outbreak response.

  - **RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**
    - Discontinue isolation/exclusion.

**ASYMPTOMATIC**

Facility without an Outbreak

POC Antigen Testing

- **POSITIVE**
  - No confirmatory test needed.
  - Isolate/exclude.

  - **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
    - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test within 48 hours.
    - Isolate/exclude pending confirmatory test.

  - **RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**
    - Continue isolation/exclusion and initiate outbreak response.

  - **RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**
    - Discontinue isolation/exclusion.

**POC Antigen Screening**

Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities and Other Congregate Facilities and Settings

October 2020

- **POSITIVE**
  - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test within 48 hours.
  - Isolate/exclude pending confirmatory test.

- **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
  - Continue serial testing according to CMS recommendations.

**PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**

Facility with an Outbreak

POC Antigen Testing

- **POSITIVE**
  - Perform confirmatory laboratory based RT-PCR test within 48 hours.
  - Isolate/exclude pending confirmatory test.

- **PRESUMPTIVE NEGATIVE**
  - Continue serial testing according to CMS recommendations.

**RT-PCR TEST POSITIVE**

Continue isolation/exclusion and initiate outbreak response.

**RT-PCR TEST NEGATIVE**

Continue serial testing according to CMS recommendations.
Footnotes

Important Considerations:

• Outbreak in a General Public Setting Algorithm: this algorithm may be used by healthcare providers and public health practitioners for interpreting antigen results when testing individuals from the general public during an outbreak/high prevalence area.

• Nursing Homes and Adult Care Facilities Algorithm: this algorithm may be used by healthcare providers and public health practitioners in nursing homes and adult care facilities.

• These algorithms are to be used as a guide, but clinical decisions may deviate from this guide if indicated. Contextual factors including clinical observations, patient exposure history, community prevalence, characteristics of different antigen testing platforms, and availability and turnaround times of laboratory based RT-PCR tests must further inform interpretation of antigen test results.

• Antigen POC tests used for SARS-CoV-2 must be authorized by the US Food and Drug Administration through an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).

• All facilities performing SARS-CoV-2 POC antigen tests are required to report all test results and demographic information to the NYS Electronic Clinical Laboratory Reporting System (ECLRS) immediately (within 3 hours). Test results reported in ECLRS are used by the NYSDOH and local health departments to initiate outbreak response and track prevalence.

• Outbreak response in a nursing home is triggered by one nursing home onset SARS-CoV-2 infection in a resident or one healthcare provider.
Footnotes Continued

**POC:** Point-of-Care  
**RT-PCR:** Reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction  

^Data on the performance of antigen tests on asymptomatic individuals is not yet available.  
*In a nursing home and adult care facility performing serial testing, continue serial testing until there are no new cases (including a single case) in either a resident or staff member within the last 14 days.  
^^If the RT-PCR test result is not available within 3-days after the POC test, proceed with other appropriate actions (e.g., contact tracing, furlough and/or quarantine of contacts).