What You Should Know About Testing for COVID-19

Know the symptoms

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:
- Cough
- Fever
- Shortness of breath

Know when to seek help

Not everyone who is sick needs to be tested.

Your local health department or health care provider can help you:
- Decide if you need an appointment, and
- Plan to enter a clinic in a way that avoids possibly infecting others, if you do go in.

If you need urgent medical care, dial 911.

Know questions your health care provider may ask you

What are your symptoms?

Have you traveled to places where COVID-19 is present?

Did you have contact with someone who has traveled where COVID-19 is present?

Have you been in contact with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19?

Health care coverage for COVID-19 testing

Your health care coverage may cover the cost of:
- COVID-19 testing at an in-network provider, in-network urgent care center or emergency room
- COVID-19 immunization when it becomes available.

Outside of COVID-19 testing, regular costs, such as co-payments, co-insurance and deductibles will still apply. It is always best to contact your plan to find out about your costs.
Know what will happen if you need to have testing for COVID-19

Your health care provider will work with the local health department to find out if you need to test for COVID-19.

Your health care provider will:
- Swab the inside of your nose
- Swab the inside of your throat
- Collect a sample of your spit with mucus, if you have a wet cough.

Know what happens with test samples

Your health care provider will:
- Take samples and talk to you about the next steps
- Send your samples to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) or authorized lab for testing.

The lab will:
- Test for COVID-19
- Give your health care provider and your local health department the results.

If your test shows that you have COVID-19:
- Your physician will decide whether you are sick enough to be in the hospital
- The local public health department will contact you
- You will be asked to stay home for some period of time.

To find out more, go to healthoregon.org/coronavirus or call 211.