



Public Health Department

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Health Advisory

To: Healthcare Providers

From: Linda Lewis, DVM, MPVM (signed original on file)

Date: August 6, 2021

Re: Test for COVID-19 in ALL Symptomatic Individuals and Report

Butte County Department of Public Health (BCPH) would like to remind providers of the importance of testing for COVID-19 in symptomatic individuals, **regardless of vaccination status**. This is due to the predominance of the highly transmissible delta variant and a resulting increase in post-vaccination cases.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

CDC's list of symptoms of COVID -19 includes fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea. Severe symptoms of COVID-19 include but are not limited to trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone. Lists are available at the [CDC Symptoms and Testing Webpage](#).

What types of testing can be used for diagnostic testing?

Diagnostic testing may be performed using either molecular testing ("PCR") or antigen testing. For symptomatic individuals who test negative on an initial antigen test, reflex molecular testing should be performed within 1 day of the initial test. Patients should be strongly advised to self-isolate away from others until confirmatory molecular test results are available. All positive point of care tests must be reported to BCPH.

For providers or facilities that do not offer testing, please see the [BCPH COVID-19 Testing Webpage](#) for available testing sites in Butte County.

Vaccination

Vaccination remains a highly effective prevention measure, especially in preventing hospitalizations and death. Unvaccinated patients should be counseled to seek vaccination as soon as possible once they complete isolation.

Clinical Effectiveness Studies with 2-Doses			
	Lab Studies	Protection vs Symptomatic infections	Protection vs Hospitalizations and Deaths
Pfizer/BioNtech	✓	79-88%	96%
Moderna	✓	72%*	96%*
Astra Zeneca	✓	60-67%	92%
Bharat Biotech	✓	NA	NA
J&J	✓	NA	NA

*Only 1-dose data available for Canada and UK studies, NA-not available, no data for Sputnik-V, CoronaVac or Sinopharm

Source: Eric Topol, Twitter

Reporting

In accordance with [Title 17, California Code of Regulations](#) (CCR), **COVID-19 must be reported to Butte County Public Health (BCPH) within eight hours**. Failure to report is a misdemeanor (Health and Safety Code § 120295) and is a citable offense under the Medical Board of California's Citation and Fine Program (Title 16, CCR, § 1364). COVID-19. For more information regarding reporting of communicable disease in Butte County visit the [BCPH website](#).

For information regarding vaccination sites in Butte County please visit the [BCPH Vaccine Webpage](#).

For questions regarding COVID-19 or this Health Advisory, providers can call BCPH Communicable Diseases at (530) 552-3929.

Resources:

- [Butte County Department of Public Health](#)
- [California Department of Public Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Categories of urgency levels:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action