VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure



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FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS



*Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever (≥100.4°F) or chills, fatigue (more tired than usual), headache, muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, new onset of poor appetite or poor feeding.

Is your child sick with symptom(s) of COVID-19*?

Symptoms new or unusual for the child

Keep child home. Call your healthcare provider (If no clinical evaluation see Return section below.)

Notify the school.

Symptoms usual for the child (e.g., allergies, migraines, asthma) or caused by a known diagnosis (e.g., ear infection, strep throat)

Seek care as per usual practice. If fever present, stay home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines

Has the child had close contact** in the past 14 days with someone with COVID-19?

YES



Send to school and/or child care

FOR SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES



**Close contact means being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, or having direct exposure to respiratory secretions.

*** ≥50 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days. Click here for local information:

www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/ key-measures/pandemic-metrics/ school-metrics/

Does a child have symptom(s) of COVID-19* at school/child care?

Other explanation for Symptoms new or unusual for the child condition or known diagnosis)

Isolate from others. Send home. If no clinical evaluation, see **Return** section below symptoms (e.g., chronic

Fever present

NO

Has the child had close contact** in the past 14 days with someone with COVID-19?



Send home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines

FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS



◆Testing – PCR or antigen (Ag) testing is acceptable. If an Ag test is negative and clinical suspicion for COVID-19 is high, confirm with PCR, ideally within 2 days of the initial Ag test. If PCR testing is not available, clinical discretion can be used in whether to recommend the patient isolate. Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past three months and recovered and most people who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 do not need to be tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.

Clinical Evaluation for Children with Symptoms of COVID-19* (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html)

In past 14 days, no known close contact** and no exposure to area with ≥50 cases/100,000 population/week***

Consider alternate diagnoses. suspicion and testing availability.

Testing and exclusion for COVID-19 may 💶 be considered based on level of clinical

In past 14 days, exposure to area with ≥50 cases/100,000 population/week ***

Test[♦] (and/or evaluate clinically) for COVID-19. Isolate at home.

In past 14 days, close contact** with person with known or suspected COVID-19

Normal

activities

Test[♦] for COVID-19 right away if symptoms present, or 5 days of more after likely exposure if no symptoms.

Isolate/quarantine# at home.

Once symptoms have improved and child has no fever for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine, allow return to school/child care.

Negative for COVID-19

Positive test or diagnosis for COVID-19

Home isolate for

Negative for COVID-19 or not tested

RETURN TO SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

If no clinical evaluation performed



14-day quarantine recommended. If unable to stay home for 14 days and if no symptoms have developed, quarantine can end after Day 10 with no test or after Day 7 with a negative PCR or antigen test performed on or after Day 5. Those who have had COVID-19 in the past three months or been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 are not required to quarantine as long as they do not have symptoms. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days and always follow COVID-19

prevention recommendations.

Symptoms and no close contact** and no exposure in last 14 days to area with ≥50 cases/100,000/ week***

> Return when no fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine.

Symptoms and had close contact** or exposure in last 14 days to area with ≥50 cases/100,000/ week ***

10-day home isolation. Then return when no fever for 24 hours without feverreducing medicine. **Quarantine close**

contacts.#

No symptoms but had close contact**

14-day home quarantine.# If no symptoms, return on Day 15. If symptoms develop, need 10-day isolation and quarantine close contacts.#

10 days after symptom onset (or date of positive test). Quarantine close contacts.#

> After 10-day isolation, if no fever for at least

24 hours and symptoms have improved, child may return to school and/or child care.

Quarantine for If no 14 days after symptoms last exposure# develop, child or isolate for may return to 10 days after school and/or symptom child care after onset Day 14.#

If symptoms develop, consider retesting. Home isolate for 10 days after symptom onset. Quarantine

close contacts.#