New COVID-19 testing options to share with our community

As a member of the MercyOne circle of care, friends, neighbors and family may ask you about COVID-19 testing available. A variety of options are offered by MercyOne to serve the community, with benefits that include:

- Results in 48 hours.
- Tests for flu, strep throat and RSV can also be ordered.
- Testing is administered via a PCR saliva test – the gold standard for asymptomatic persons (90 percent reliable).
- The cost of COVID-19 testing for a patient exposed to an individual who is symptomatic or asymptomatic is typically covered by insurance. If an individual was not exposed, but would like COVID-19 testing prior to travel or an event, the out-of-pocket cost is $90.

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<th>TESTING OPTION</th>
<th>FRIENDS AND FAMILY MAY…</th>
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| Primary Care Providers | • Schedule an in-person or telehealth visit, with many offices now offering online scheduling.  
                          • Care locations can be found at [MercyOne.org/desmoines](http://MercyOne.org/desmoines). |
| Urgent Care Clinics | • All MercyOne Urgent Care Clinic locations offer testing, 7 days a week.  
                          • [Appointments can be made online](http://MercyOne.org/desmoines). |
| Drive-Up COVID-19 Testing | This new weekday option may be utilized through three quick and easy steps:  
                             1. Schedule a telehealth visit ([for adult patients](http://MercyOne.org/desmoines) / [for pediatric patients](http://MercyOne.org/desmoines)).  
                              2. Connect with a MercyOne provider using a computer or phone for the visit.  
                              3. Drive up for a curbside test at [MercyOne Norwalk Family Medicine Clinic](http://MercyOne.org/desmoines). Drive-up testing hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–4:40 p.m., by appointment only.  
                                 **Please note:** the testing site will be closed December 31 and January 1. |
| Pre-Travel or Pre-Event Testing | • Call 515-974-0836, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. to schedule.  
                                    • Patients should schedule 3 days in advance of the date they need test results back. |

Help spread the word: Information about these convenient COVID-19 testing options can also be found on the MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center Facebook page. Please consider sharing the post and help get the word out to our community!

New providers joining MercyOne

During the past year, MercyOne Central Iowa welcomed more than three dozen providers. During this season of celebration, we are proud to welcome these new members to the MercyOne Family.

Welcome

- Tosha Peterson, associate regional director, Integrity & Compliance