

Fever / COVID-19 Symptom Decision Tree

(Version: 07/31/2020c)



At school, student or staff member develops any one of the following signs or symptoms:

Fever with or without chills/rigors (fever defined as $T > 100.0$ that does not resolve within 30 min. without medication);

- Cough*
- Shortness of breath
- Nasal congestion/rhinorrhea (runny nose)*
- Sorethroat
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea*
- Fatigue*
- New loss of taste/smell
- Headache*
- Muscle or body aches*
- Poor feeding or poor appetite*

Disregard this symptom if school personnel already aware of a chronic, pre-existing condition that causes the symptom. The nature of the presenting symptom (e.g., duration, intensity) must be consistent with the underlying chronic condition.

ACTION: Apply appropriate PPE; isolate student/staff member until sent home; recommend they reach health care provider for instructions.
 Note: Other infections can cause same symptoms (e.g., flu, strep, etc.) *but these do not rule out COVID-19 as a co-occurring*



STUDENT / STAFF TO STAY HOME UNTIL...

With PCR COVID-19 viral test
(Not antibody test; not antigen test)

Without PCR COVID-19 viral test

Note from healthcare provider re: chronic illness

Negative

Positive

May return 72 hours after symptoms resolved.

Consider school community notification.

Identify all close contacts (as defined by CDC). Identify all cohorts (class, bus, clubs, etc.). Quarantine and exclude close contacts (and work with public health on decision to exclude entire cohort) for 14 days after last date case present.

Retested or Not Retested
*Proof of negative test not required

If note from MD/DO/NP/PA, or public health defines case as presumed COVID-19 virus (based on symptoms and circumstances), then: (a) consider notifying staff and parents of class (or bus, etc.) of a potential exposure; and (b) in conjunction with public health, exclude "close contacts" (using CDC definition) for 14 days from last day of exposure.

Isolate the case. May return when:
(a) 24 hours without fever (no meds) and (b) symptoms are improving AND (c) at least 10 days from the day symptom onset or test date.

A signed note from a licensed MD/DO/NP/PA (who manages that condition) must: confirm the chronic diagnosis (i.e., cites labs, date-of-record when diagnosed); include provider's contact information; explain how symptoms are unrelated to COVID-19; and be accompanied by signed consent for school to interact with MD/DO/NP/PA.

May return to school immediately
Consider individualized student health plan to prevent any future unnecessary dismissals.



If school becomes aware of one case in one cohort (shared bus, classroom, lab, team, etc.) then have school district's liaison to Public Health Department report the case for further direction on quarantine.