

IDSA issues recommendations for COVID-19 testing

March 24 2020



(HealthDay)—In a statement published online March 19 by the

Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), recommendations are presented for public health and health care professionals to prioritize coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing.

The IDSA developed recommendations for prioritization of diagnostic testing. As testing becomes more widely available or as new information becomes available, these recommendations are likely to change.

The IDSA recommends a four-tier approach to testing. Tier 1 includes critically ill patients with unexplained viral pneumonia or [respiratory failure](#) receiving intensive care unit-level care, regardless of travel history or close contact with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients. In addition, tier 1 includes anyone with fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory tract illness and close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset; anyone with a history of travel within 14 days of symptom onset to regions with sustained community transmission; anyone who is immunosuppressed or elderly or has chronic health conditions; and those who are critical to the pandemic response.

Tier 2 includes hospitalized patients and long-term care residents with unexplained fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory tract illness; routine testing of hospitalized patients may be important for infection prevention as testing becomes more widely available. Tier 3 includes patients in outpatient settings who meet the criteria for influenza testing and those with specific comorbidities; given limited available data, testing of pregnant women and symptomatic children with [risk factors](#) is recommended. Tier 4 includes community surveillance as directed by [public health](#) and/or infectious disease authorities.

More information: [More Information](#)

Citation: IDSA issues recommendations for COVID-19 testing (2020, March 24) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-idsa-issues-covid-.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.