

California

COVID-19 Screening and Diagnostic Testing for Members Employed at Skilled Nursing and Long-Term Care Facilities

Kaiser Permanente offers COVID-19 diagnostic testing for qualifying members who work at skilled nursing and long-term health care facilities.

Based on public health recommendations that skilled nursing facility (SNF) and long-term care (LTC) facility employees be tested regularly for the presence of COVID-19 infections, Kaiser Permanente has developed a convenient process for coronavirus diagnostic testing for qualifying members who serve in these roles.

Any SNF/LTC employee who is a Kaiser Permanente member and has any of the symptoms listed below should self-isolate, **NOT** go to work, and contact Kaiser Permanente for further instructions.

Asymptomatic SNF/LTC employees who are Kaiser Permanente members can complete a convenient e-visit screening on kp.org to have a COVID-19 PCR diagnostic test ordered.

The following requirements must be met to qualify for the e-visit screening and a possible PCR test:

- ▶ SNF and/or long-term care facility employees must be Kaiser Permanente members and need to be registered on kp.org in order to complete an e-visit.¹
- ▶ SNF and/or long-term care facility employees must be asymptomatic (free of coronavirus symptoms). This means no:
 - Fever and chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath (having to stop to catch your breath when walking fast or up the stairs)
 - Sore throat
 - Severe muscle aches
 - Nausea, vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - New loss of smell and taste that started less than 14 days ago
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Congestion, runny nose

If the above requirements are met, the COVID-19 diagnostic test will be offered.

Frequency

- ▶ The recommended testing frequency for asymptomatic employees who work in SNF/LTC locations that are COVID-19 infection-free is **once per month**.
- ▶ For asymptomatic employees who work in SNF/LTC locations that are COVID-19-positive, the recommended frequency of testing is **once per week**.

If an SNF/LTC facility requires a worker to get a COVID-19 diagnostic retest, the employee will need to wait at least 1 week and meet the symptom-free requirements. For individual circumstances that require early repeat testing, please call Kaiser Permanente to discuss further.

Regardless of the e-visit screening or test outcome, individuals must continue to follow current state and local guidance concerning COVID-19 precautions to protect themselves and those around them. This includes physical distancing, wearing the appropriate mask, hand hygiene, and other measures to reduce the likelihood of transmitting COVID-19.

For COVID-19 general questions, or if an individual believes they have coronavirus symptoms, they should access kp.org or call Kaiser Permanente.

Northern California Appointments and Advice call **1-866-454-8855** (TTY 711).

Southern California Appointments and Advice call **1-833-574-2273 (1-833-KP4CARE)**

or call **1-877-813-7297** (TTY 711), between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., 7 days a week.

Kaiser Permanente SNF/LTC employee testing

Northern California Kaiser Permanente SNF/RCFE (Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly) physicians can complete a convenient e-visit screening on kp.org to have a COVID-19 PCR diagnostic test ordered. Other Kaiser Permanente employees should consult Employee Health Services for COVID-19 screening needs.

Southern California Kaiser Permanente SNF/LTC health care workers or employees who work for Kaiser Permanente should consult Employee Health Services for COVID-19 screening needs.

¹ Otherwise, Kaiser Permanente members can contact the Appointment and Advice Call Center regarding COVID-19 testing.