



News from Livingston County, NY

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New COVID-19 Testing Protocols Prioritize Front Line Workers

Mount Morris, NY, April 29, 2020 — Livingston County Public Health Director Jennifer Rodriguez would like to remind residents of new protocols for COVID-19 testing that support statewide coordinated testing prioritization. As COVID-19 testing capacity increases across New York State, these protocols are meant to prioritize resources to meet the most urgent public health need.

COVID-19 testing will now be prioritized for individuals with or without symptoms who are employed as health care workers, first responders, or in any position within a nursing home, long-term care facility, or other congregate care setting, including but not limited to:

- Correction, Parole and Probation Officers
- Direct Care Providers
- Firefighters
- Health Care Practitioners, Professionals, Aides, and Support Staff (e.g. Physicians, Nurses, Public Health Personnel)
- Medical Specialists
- Nutritionists and Dietitians
- Occupational, Physical, Recreational and Speech Therapists
- Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)
- Police Officers
- Psychologists and Psychiatrists
- Residential Care Program Managers

This diagnostic testing will determine whether an individual is currently infected with COVID-19. *This testing does not include antibody testing.*

Rodriguez stated, “It is important for us to focus attention on these front line workers who may have a higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 based on the nature of their work.”

If you are an individual in one of the prioritization categories listed above, you should contact your primary care physician or the Livingston County Department of Health (if you do not have a primary care physician) at 585-243-7270 to be screened for eligibility. If eligible for COVID-19 testing, an appointment will be arranged for you at a local COVID-19 testing site.

The Livingston County Department of Health (LCDOH) recently teamed up with Noyes Health to administer close to 200 COVID-19 tests among the front line health workers at the Livingston County Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation (CNR), the 266-bed nursing home owned by Livingston County.

“Extensive testing among CNR front line workers is a priority because this facility houses one of our most vulnerable populations in the face of this public health crisis,” stated Rodriguez. “Our goal is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the CNR through early identification and isolation of any positive cases that may exist.”

Rodriguez continued, “Thank you to Noyes Health for collaborating with us on this large-scale effort. Together, we are working to stop the spread of COVID-19 and save lives.”



Noyes Health nurses tested CNR staff for COVID-19

Pictured: Pauline Shaw, Melinda Rittenhouse, Sherri Ames, Beth Smith and Jess Stratton

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