

Testing for Covid-19 in UVM Children’s Hospital Pediatric Primary Care

UVM Children’s Hospital Pediatric primary care will begin testing for Covid-19 at our Burlington and Williston sites for select patients utilizing the following guidelines.

Background: There is a need across the state to continue testing for Covid-19, including adolescents and children with mild symptoms. The current testing protocol at the Essex Fairgrounds is challenging to access for a subset of patients, including some pediatric patients and their families due to transportation or other barriers. Across the country, low-income and ethnically diverse communities experienced inequality in access to testing and have a higher prevalence of Covid-19 infection, often with more severe symptoms. UVM Children’s Hospital Pediatric Primary Care serves both ethnically diverse and low-income populations and seeks to expand opportunities for testing of our patients.

Who to Test for Covid-19 at Primary Care: Utilize the accompanying **Process Flow Map**

- Children with possible Covid-19 symptoms who after provider triage or video visit are determined to need a physical exam or other testing (eg. Strep throat) but do not need ED/urgent care level of care.
- Families who have transportation challenges which make it difficult to get to the Essex Fairgrounds
- Families who are refusing to have testing performed at other sites.

How to Obtain the Test: Utilize the accompanying **“Anterior Nares Testing” document**

- Don PPE for special droplet + contact precautions: N95, face shield, gown, gloves
- Provider only in the room (Rooming staff direct patient to room and check in remotely)

Where Testing Will Occur:

Burlington:

- Room patient immediately on presentation
- “Sick rooms” include (in order of preference) 2,3,1

Williston:

- Direct patient to back door and room immediately on presentation
- “Sick rooms” include (in order of preference) 8,7,6

Set up – Both Locations:

“Sick rooms” to be empty of non-symptomatic patients by 3 p.m. each day.

Thermometer and scale placed in preferred sick room

Trash container for disposable of appropriate PPE placed outside of preferred sick room

Entrance Communication

Williston:

- Patient to enter through back door – call clinic when they arrive to be given access

Burlington:

- TBD – pending conversation with Lea Carbonneau