

Ministry Expands COVID-19 Testing – Anyone Symptomatic, Concerned they Have Been Exposed or at Risk of Exposure in their Workplace Can Be Tested

Update for York Region health care professionals as of May 25, 2020

On May 24, 2020 Ontario's Ministry of Health added additional directions for COVID-19 testing to their [guidance issued on May 14, 2020](#). In addition to those set out in the previous guidance, testing at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre is available for the following individuals:

Symptomatic testing:

- **All people with at least one symptom** of COVID-19, even for mild symptoms. Please see the *Guidance for All Populations* section of the previous Testing Guidance update for details about these symptoms.

Asymptomatic, risk-based testing:

- **People who are concerned that they have been exposed to COVID-19.** This includes people who are contacts of or may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case.
- **People who are at risk of exposure to COVID-19 through their employment,** including essential workers (e.g., health care workers, grocery store employees, food processing plants).

The Ministry also indicates that **no resident will be declined** a test at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre if they are symptomatic or asymptomatic and concerned that they have been exposed/at-risk.

York Region Public Health encourages health care professionals to use their clinical judgement during patient assessment and encourage patients to visit a COVID-19 Assessment Centre, operated by three York Region hospitals: [Markham-Stouffville Hospital](#), [Mackenzie Health](#) and [Southlake Regional Health Centre](#). Patients must follow the processes of the individual COVID-19 Assessment Centre when visiting (i.e., testing by appointment or walk-in). Please recommend that your patient(s) consult the website of the appropriate hospital before visiting.

For more information

York Region Public Health will continue to provide health care professionals with the latest information on Ministry guidance as the COVID-19 pandemic progresses. If you have any questions about COVID-19, call our dedicated health professional COVID-19 line at **1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280** (8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week, after hours call 905-953-6478). Continue to visit york.ca/healthprofessionals, york.ca/covid19 and Ontario.ca/covid19 for up to date information on COVID-19.

