**DSHS 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Testing**

### Clinical features & Epidemiologic Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath)</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Any person, including health care workers, who has had close contact with a laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCoV patient within 14 days of symptom onset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath)</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>A history of travel from Hubei Province, China within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization for severe acute lower respiratory illness</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>A history of travel from mainland China within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The criteria are intended to serve as guidance for evaluation. Patients should be evaluated and discussed with public health departments on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g., uncertain travel or exposure).

---

### 2019-nCoV testing not recommended

- **Yes** Contact Local or Regional Health Department*
- **Yes** Local Jurisdiction determines if Person meets 2019-nCoV Patient Under Investigation (PUI) criteria
- **Yes** Contact DSHS EAU/D and confirm that it meets PUI criteria
- **Yes** CDC agrees it meets PUI criteria
- **Yes** Specimen is shipped to a Texas Public Health Lab (i.e. LRN Lab^)
- **Yes** Test Result Notification to TX Public Health Lab^
- **Yes** Public Health Lab notifies Regional and Local Health Department of test result
- **Yes** Regional and Local Health Department notifies healthcare facilities or personnel of test results

**Additional Information**

- CDC 2019-nCoV
- Situation Summary

---

**Specimen is shipped to CDC**

**Test Result Notification to TX Public Health Lab**

**Public Health Lab notifies Regional and Local Health Department of test result**

---

**Specimen is shipped to Texas Public Health Lab** (i.e. LRN Lab^)

**Submitter collects and holds specimen until CDC agrees to testing**

---

**2019-nCoV testing not recommended**

---

**Fever may be subjective or confirmed.**

**Close contact is defined as:**

- a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a 2019-nCoV case for a prolonged period of time while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator, eye protection); close contact can include while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a health care waiting area or room with a 2019-nCoV case -or-
- b) having direct contact with infectious secretions of a 2019-nCoV case (e.g., being coughed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.

**Documentation of laboratory-confirmation of 2019-nCoV may not be possible for travelers or persons caring for patients in other countries.**

**Category also includes any member of a cluster of patients with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) of unknown etiology in which 2019-nCoV is being considered that requires hospitalization. Such persons should be evaluated in consultation with state and local health departments regardless of travel history.**

**For persons with travel to China within 14 days that are being regularly monitored by local health departments or referred for evaluation from border screening, testing for nCoV can be considered at the discretion of the health officials for all persons with illnesses with fever and lower respiratory symptoms (those hospitalized or those not hospitalized).**

**Find your Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Lab at** [https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/epirLNRContact.shtm](https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/epirLNRContact.shtm).

**Find your Local Health Department:** [https://www.dshs.texas.gov/regions/2019-nCoV-Local-Health-Entities/](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/regions/2019-nCoV-Local-Health-Entities/). **Submitter may include health care facilities, providers, etc.**

---

**Rev. 2.6.20**