Follow-up for Positive COVID-19 Cases and their Close Contacts

Tools for LBOHs

June 22, 2021

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Topics Today

- Reminders
  - Close Contact now applies to Indoor Exposures.
  - Breakthrough Cases
- MassNotify
- Serology Testing
- Your Questions
MDPH Conducts Weekly COVID-19 Case Investigation Webinars

- **MDPH presents weekly on Tuesdays 11:00-12:15**
  - Updates in Guidance
  - Troubleshooting MAVEN
  - How to conduct case investigations and contact tracing in different settings.
  - Target Audience: Health Agents and public health nurses doing this work.

- **Friday Office Hours have been discontinued for the summer.**

**Webinars:** Tuesdays @ 11am

**MDPH Epi Program:** 617-983-6800
**MDPH MAVEN Help Desk:** isishelp@mass.gov
**MDPH ISIS Help Desk:** 617-983-6801
**MDPH ISIS Fax:** 617-983-6813
**CTC Help Desk:** 857-305-2828

**CTC Local Health Help** ctclocalhealthhelp@covid19.pih.org
**CTC Supervisor Contact List**
**Higher Ed Contact List**

MAVEN Help has Guidance Documents and Previous Webinars:
Immediate Notification workflow (COVID-19 Only)

- **UPDATE:** COVID-19 Immediate Notification Workflow - 51 events in this workflow this morning
  - This will allow proper notification of all new COVID-19 events for your jurisdiction. *(Confirmed and Probable Cases)*
  - Please review all events/cases in this workflow and complete your **Step 1- LBOH Notification to “Yes”** to clear out this workflow.
  - If you are retaining ownership then complete **Step 2 (Investigation Started)** & **Step 3 (LBOH Investigator (name, lboh, phone number))**
  - When you are done then complete **Step 4 (Case Report Form Complete)**
  - You can complete **Step 5** if you want – if not then leave blank
Get the Training Basics Here:

**Introduction to COVID-19 Follow-up Part 1 – May 11, 2021**
- Part 1 Intro Training Slides
- Part 1 Intro Training Recording

**Introduction to COVID-19 Follow-up Part 2 – May 18, 2021**
- Part 2 Intro Training Slides
- Part 2 Intro Training Recording

**COVID-19 Cluster Events Training – May 25, 2021**
- Cluster Training Slides
- Cluster Training Recording

- There are tools available for you to help collect information on close contacts and to calculate out their quarantine period (and potential quarantine options as applicable).
  - All tools, including the Interview Tool, are available on MAVEN Help.
    - You do NOT have to be in MAVEN or be a MAVEN user to access these tools. They are available online.
  - Close Contact Form (1 Contact Extended Calculation Tool)
  - Close Contact Form (2 Contacts)
Summary of Key Guidance & Tools

• MA Testing Guidance: Updated June 14, 2021
  • [https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing-guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing-guidance)

• MA Travel Information
  • Return to normal travel recommendations for vaccinated people.

• Isolation & Quarantine Guidance Documents
    • Guidance now states recently recovered (in first 90 days) and fully vaccinated people do not need to quarantine.

• Date: March 8, 2021 – Occupational Exposure & Return to Work Guidance
  • Now includes language about recently recovered and fully vaccinated people.

• Pediatric Clinical Testing Advisory
  • 11/25/2020 Advises Pediatricians to Test for COVID-19 in all patients with symptoms compatible with COVID, regardless of age

• Date: 10/21/2020 COVID-19 Testing Scenarios FAQ
  • Describes different lab test results and what to do
  • Outlines discordant results and what they mean

• 05/06/2021 Updated COVID-19 Case Classification Manual
Summary of Key Guidance & Tools

Date: 8/22/2020 - MDPH COVID-19 PCR and Antibody Testing Public Health Response Recommendations
• Table describes different Public Health Actions based upon different testing results.
• Big take home: PCR & Antigen positive patients should be treated like cases.
• Serology + cases do not require public health follow-up.

Date 8/10/2020 - MDPH Follow-up Table for Positive Antigen Test Results
• Reminder that while Antigen Tests = Probable, we still treat like a case and isolate accordingly & do contact tracing.
• A PCR obtained at the same time (w/i 2 calendar days) will trump the antigen test result.

Date: 02/13/2021- Updated CDC Guidance on Duration of Isolation & Precautions for Adults with COVID-19
• 10 Day Isolation Period now has more data supporting it.
• Ignore most additional PCR tests up to 3 months after initial illness onset.
• No need to quarantine up to 3 months after initial illness onset.
CDC Updated Pages

• CDC Vaccines Guidance Page:
  • “Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States”
    • Great resource for all your vaccine questions. Now includes info on all three vaccines!

• Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)’s Ask the Experts page
  • https://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_cov.asp
    • Great resource for all your vaccine questions in a Q&A format.

• CDC guidance on VACCINATED PEOPLE:
  • Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People
    • Talks about what precautions are still needed for fully vaccinated people, etc.
Updated Public Health Guidance and Directives

- **General COVID Testing Guidance:**
  - [View all COVID-19 Testing Guidance](#)

- **Congregate Care:**

- **Laboratories:**
  - DPH Guidance, June 14, 2021: [Temporary Laboratory License for CLIA-waived COVID-19 Testing and Clinical Laboratory Alternate Sites](#)

- **Adult Day Programs:**
  - [EOHHS COVID-19 Guidance for day programs](#), June 14, 2021
    - This guidance replaces [day program guidance dated March 22, 2021](#).
  - [EOHHS COVID-19 Guidance for Human Service Transportation](#), June 14, 2021
  - [EOHHS COVID-19 Human Service Transportation Checklist](#)

- **Substance Addiction Service Providers:**
  - [Waivers from Certain Regulatory Requirements](#), updated June 14, 2021

- **Link:** [https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-public-health-guidance-and-directives#health-care-professionals](#)
Updated Public Health Guidance and Directives

- **Healthcare Providers:**
  - DPH COVID-19 Guidance for all health care organizations and providers, June 14, 2021
  - DPH Guidance to implement the DPH Order authorizing additional individuals to vaccinate, June 14, 2021

- **Hospitals:**
  - DPH Hospital Visitation Guidance, June 14, 2021
  - DPH Guidance, June 14, 2021: Updated Guidance Regarding Implementation of Alternative Acute Care Space
  - DPH Guidance, June 14, 2021: Hospital Space for COVID-19 Testing, Treatment and Vaccine Administration

- **Clinics:**
  - DPH Guidance, June 14, 2021: Clinic Space for COVID-19 Testing, Treatment and Vaccine Administration

- **LTCF:**
  - DPH Guidance on Visitation Conditions, Communal Dining, and Congregate Activities in Long-Term Care Facilities during the COVID-19 Outbreak June 14, 2021

- **ALR:**
  - EOEA Guidance to implement the DPH Order regarding authorization for skilled nursing care and staffing updates in assisted living facilities, June 15, 2021.
  - Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) guidance, June 14, 2021: Updated Guidance for Assisted Living Residences during COVID-19
Updates – A quick recap for June 22, 2021

Last Tuesday, June 15th:

• Breakthrough
  • Breakthrough Teleform for providers (hospitalization and death)
  • What to Do with Breakthrough for LBOH investigations
• Updated Testing Guidance!
• Testing Reminders
  • Serology Testing
  • Home Testing
    • New BinaxNOW Self-Test
• Delta Variant

Always Remember you can see all previous webinar recordings and slides in MAVEN Help.

Close Contact: Updated Definition

The mass.gov definition of Close Contact has been updated to Exclude Outdoor exposures.

This is the wording on mass.gov:

• How do I know if I am a close contact of someone with COVID-19?
• You are a close contact of a COVID-19 positive person if you were within 6 feet of them while indoors, for at least 15 minutes, while they were symptomatic or within the 48 hours before symptom onset.
• You are also a close contact if you were within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes of someone while indoors, who tested positive for COVID-19 in the 48 hours before their test was taken or anytime in the 10 days after the test.
• According to CDC guidance, individuals are less likely to be exposed to COVID-19 during outdoor activities, even without the use of masks.
When Are You Fully Vaccinated?

Individuals are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen):

- This guidance is limited to FDA & WHO-approved vaccines (so also includes other WHO-approved vaccines like AstraZeneca & Covishield at this time).
- Does not apply to non-WHO approved international vaccines at this time.

Breakthrough Disease is any positive test obtained Day 14 or later following the final dose in a vaccine series. Person was not previously positive in last 45 days.

Final Dose

Any exposure here (≤13 days) still requires full quarantine.

Fully Vaccinated Day 14

Quarantine Exemption
LBOH & Breakthrough Cases – what to do?

- Ensure you ask about and/or confirm vaccination status for all your interviews.
  - Enter Vaccine information into the Vaccine Question Package
    - You can confirm dates/formulations in MIIS.
  - If vaccine data has already been populated, be sure to confirm that info with the case to make sure it is correct.
  - If the patient has NOT been vaccinated, be sure to note that as well.

- Complete data in MAVEN is the #1 action to help track breakthrough disease.
  - Vaccine info, symptoms, demographics

- We want to sequence these specimens, and are working to identify lists in bulk and request specimens in bulk directly from MDPH to the corresponding labs.

- You do not need to call MDPH with every breakthrough case. Make sure the data is correctly entered and we will identify it on our end.
COVID-19 Automated Exposure Notifications in MA.

- MassNotify has moved beyond a pilot to state-wide rollout. Anyone with a smartphone can now participate – but you have to turn it on first.
  - Once you have enabled MassNotify, your phone will track your close contact to other MassNotify-enabled phones.

- If someone then tests positive and chooses to also do notifications through MassNotify, you would receive a notification about being exposed, and next step guidance.

- Everyone who now tests positive will receive a text from MassNotify. People who have been using MassNotify can then opt in to have anonymous notification go out to any potential recent contacts that MassNotify might have identified.
COVID-19 Automated Exposure Notifications in MA.

• MassNotify has moved beyond a pilot to state-wide rollout. Anyone with a smart phone can now participate – but you have to turn it on first.
  • Once you have enabled MassNotify, your phone will track your close contact to other MassNotify-enabled phones. If someone then tests positive and chooses to also do notifications through MassNotify, you would receive a notification about being exposed, and next step guidance.
• Learn more about MassNotify: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/learn-more-about-massnotify

• Answers to frequently asked questions about MassNotify, a new service developed with Google and Apple’s automated exposure notification technology to help slow the spread of COVID-19.
• MassNotify works through smartphones, with a focus on privacy, to alert users who may have been exposed to COVID-19.
• Enable MassNotify on your smartphone: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/enable-massnotify-on-your-smartphone#how-to-enable-massnotify-on-your-phone-
MassNotify on Phones

MassNotify is completely voluntary—users need to opt-in to benefit from exposure notifications technology by enabling MassNotify on their phones.

**iPhone Users**
Available in iOS settings

**Android Users**
App in the Google Play store
MAVEN Exposure Notification – Question Package #9/Wizard

Have you shared your results with MassNotify?

Question is for Confirmed/Probable Cases only

Did you receive an exposure notification from MassNotify in the past 14 days?

Did you receive a call from a contact tracer/LBOH informing you that you were a contact in the past 14 days?

By which method were you FIRST identified as a contact

Save  Save & Stay  Cancel  Help
Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance!


Testing guidelines

- [COVID-19 Testing Guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing-guidance), updated June 14, 2021

- Long awaited update (last version was August 7, 2020)
Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance!


RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DIAGNOSTIC COVID-19 TESTING:

- PCR or other NAAT
- Rapid antigen tests
- Serologic antibody tests

**Symptomatic individuals:**

- Close contacts of confirmed or clinically diagnosed COVID-19 cases:
  - Recommended timing of testing for close contacts:
    - Admission to a healthcare facility:
    - Asymptomatic individuals:
    - Screening:
    - Previously positive individuals cleared from isolation:
    - Vaccinated individuals:

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COVID-19 TEST RESULTING:
Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance!

MA COVID-19 Testing Guidance, updated June 14, 2021

- PCRs (or other NAAT) remain the Gold Standard Test.

- Rapid Antigen are most useful in symptomatic individuals w/i first few days of onset.
  - Results “may” need to be confirmed with a NAAT. Situations include:
    - Negative Antigen in symptomatic person.
    - Positive Antigen in asymptomatic person without known exposure.
    - Positive Antigen tests in people with clinical syndrome consistent with COVID-19 do not require confirmatory NAAT.
Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance! 

MA COVID-19 Testing Guidance, updated June 14, 2021

- **Serologic Antibody Tests:**
  - Have a role in diagnosing multisystem inflammatory syndrome but do not really have an additional role in diagnosis and shouldn’t be used for that purpose.
  - Get a NAAT at the same time as collecting a Serology Test.
  - Don’t use serology tests to guide isolation or return to work.
COVID-19 Serology Tests

Per FDA: Interpreting Serology Testing

At this time, do not interpret the results of qualitative, semi-quantitative, or quantitative SARS-CoV-2 antibody tests as an indication of a specific level of immunity or protection from SARS-CoV-2 infection after the person has received a COVID-19 vaccination.

• While a positive antibody test can indicate an immune response has occurred (seroconversion), and failure to detect such a response may suggest a lack of immune response, more research is needed.
• Currently authorized SARS-CoV-2 antibody tests are not validated to evaluate specific immunity or protection from SARS-CoV-2 infection.

COVID-19 Serology Tests

Q: What does a positive antibody test mean?

- **A:** If you have a positive test result on a SARS-CoV-2 antibody test, it is possible that you have recently or previously had COVID-19. There is also a chance that the positive result is wrong, known as a false positive. False positive tests may occur:
  - Because antibody tests may detect coronaviruses other than SARS-CoV-2, such as those that cause the common cold.
  - When testing is done in a population without many cases of COVID-19 infections. These types of tests work best in populations with higher rates of infection.

Source: FDA & Serology Testing
COVID-19 Serology Tests

Q: Does a positive antibody test mean that I am immune to COVID-19?

• A: A positive antibody test does not necessarily mean you are immune from SARS-CoV-2 infection, as it is not known whether having antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 will protect you from getting infected again. It also does not indicate whether you can infect other people with SARS-CoV-2.

Source: FDA & Serology Testing
Q: What does a negative antibody test mean?

• **A:** A negative result on a SARS-CoV-2 antibody test means antibodies to the virus were not detected in your sample. It could mean:
  
  • You have not been infected with COVID-19 previously.
  • You had COVID-19 in the past but you did not develop or have not yet developed detectable antibodies. It is unknown if all infected individuals will develop a detectable antibody response.
  • The result may be wrong, known as a false negative. This occurs when the test does not detect antibodies even though you may have specific antibodies for SARS-CoV-2.

• There are several reasons why negative antibody test results do not indicate with certainty that you do not have or have not had an infection with SARS-CoV-2. For example, if you are tested soon after being infected with SARS-CoV-2, the test may be negative, because it takes time for the body to develop an antibody response. It is also unknown if antibody levels decline over time to undetectable levels.

Source: [FDA & Serology Testing](https://www.fda.gov)
Q. I received a COVID-19 vaccination. Do I need an antibody test to know if I am immune to COVID-19?

• **A:** Antibody tests are not recommended to determine your level of immunity or protection from COVID-19.

• If you have questions about whether an antibody test is right for you, talk with your health care provider or your state and local health departments.

Source: [FDA & Serology Testing](https://www.fda.gov)
# Molecular (PCR), Antigen, and Antibody (Serology) Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Molecular Test (PCR)</th>
<th>Antigen Test - Newer (always rapid)</th>
<th>Antibody (Serology Test)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed in Lab Tab as follows:</td>
<td>Listed in Lab Tab as follows:</td>
<td>Listed in Lab Tab as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2019-nCoV Real-time RT-PCR (PCR)</td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 Ag (Antigen Test)</td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 IgM (Serology IgM specific)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SARS coronavirus 2 RdRp gene (PCR RAPID)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 IgG (Serology IgG specific)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panel Tests that Include COVID-19:</td>
<td></td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 IgA (Serology IgA specific)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2019-NCOV RNA PNL XXX NAA+PROBE</td>
<td></td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 IgG + IgM (Serology Antibody Type Unspecified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Flu A/Flu B/SARS COVID-2/SARS-related coronavirus RNA panel</td>
<td></td>
<td>• SARS-CoV-2 TCRB Bld Ql Seq (T-cell receptor beta (TCRB) gene)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Resp virus Pnl XXX PCR</td>
<td></td>
<td>• SARS coronavirus 2 spike protein RBD Ab.neut : PrThr : Pt : Ser/Plas:Ord:IA (Serology for antibodies against spike protein)</td>
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- **Positive Molecular Test:** Case Classification = CONFIRMED
- **Positive Antigen Test:** Case Classification = PROBABLE
- **Positive Antibody Test:** Case Classification = SUSPECT
Spike Protein Antibody Test

- Vaccines trigger antibodies to specific viral protein targets. For example, currently authorized COVID-19 mRNA vaccines induce antibodies to the spike protein and not to nucleocapsid proteins that are likely detected only after natural infections.
- Therefore, COVID-19 vaccinated people who have not had previous natural infection will receive a negative antibody test result if the antibody test does not detect the antibodies induced by the COVID-19 vaccine.

- **Spike Protein COVID-19 Antibody (Blood Test):**
  - This test potentially identifies antibodies created by you in response to vaccination against the COVID-19 virus. It can also detect antibodies made in response to a COVID-19 infection.
QUESTIONS???

QUESTIONS ARE MY FAVORITE