

Guidance for asymptomatic testing

26 August 2020

New and clarified advice for clinicians on asymptomatic community testing for COVID-19 in the short-term. It is critical that you continue to encourage all patients presenting with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to be tested. The assessment and swabbing for these patients are at no charge to the individuals.

We particularly encourage you to test the following groups:

Who	Action
Does not have symptoms of COVID-19. Does not meet HIS criteria but is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Healthcare worker · Aged care worker · Close contact of border worker groups 	Consider for surveillance testing
Does not have symptoms of COVID-19. Does not meet HIS criteria but is at greater risk of poor health outcomes if they were to contract COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Māori · Pasifika · Seniors · Pre-existing conditions (for example: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes.) 	Consider for surveillance testing
Asymptomatic border worker groups. This includes those who work at Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities	Test
Asymptomatic close contacts of a confirmed or probable case	Test
Asymptomatic New Zealand-based air crew	Test

*More information on requirements for international airline crew is available here <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-resources-border-sector/covid-19-aviation-sector>