

VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure (August 24, 2020)

For Parents and Guardians

***Symptoms of COVID-19** include fever (≥100.4°F) or chills, fatigue (more tired than usual), headache, muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, new onset poor appetite or poor feeding.

Is your child sick with symptom(s) of COVID-19*?

NO

Has the child had close contact** with someone with COVID-19?

NO

YES

Symptoms new or unusual for the child

Symptoms usual for the child (e.g., allergies, migraines, asthma) or caused by a known diagnosis (e.g., ear infection, strep throat)

Keep child home. Call your healthcare provider. Notify the school.

Seek care as per usual practice. If fever present, stay home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines

Send to school and/or childcare

For Schools and Childcare Facilities

****Close contact** means being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more or direct exposure to respiratory secretions

***** ≥10 cases per 100,000 population** Currently all of Virginia. This will be updated with a link to data on local transmission when available.

Does a child have symptom(s) of COVID-19* at school/childcare?

NO

Has the child had close contact** with someone with COVID-19?

NO

YES

Symptoms new or unusual for the child

Child has known or chronic diagnosis that explains symptoms

Isolate from others. Send home.

Fever present?

YES

NO

Send home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines

Normal activities

For Healthcare Providers

Clinical Evaluation for Children with Symptoms of COVID-19* (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html)

† Testing – PCR or antigen (Ag) testing is acceptable. If an Ag detection test is negative and there is a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19, confirm with PCR, ideally within 2 days of the initial Ag test. If RT-PCR testing is not available, clinical discretion can be used in whether to recommend the patient isolate.

No known close contact and no exposure to area with ≥10 cases/100,000 population***

Exposure to area with ≥10 cases/100,000 population ***

Close contact** with person with known or suspected COVID-19

Testing † and exclusion for COVID-19 may be considered based on level of clinical suspicion and testing availability.

Test † for COVID-19. Isolate at home.

Test † for COVID-19. Isolate/quarantine at home.

Alternate diagnoses should be considered and exclusions based on usual practice. (Isolate until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine)

Negative for SARS-CoV-2

Positive for SARS-CoV-2

Negative for SARS-CoV-2 or not tested

Return to School and Childcare

If no clinical evaluation performed on child

Symptoms* new or unusual for the child

No symptoms, but has had close contact** with someone with COVID-19

10 days home isolation

14 days home quarantine

Exclude for 10 days from symptom onset (or date of positive test) as long as 24 hours fever free and symptoms improved. Quarantine close contacts

Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure or isolate for 10 days from symptom onset

If no symptoms develop, return to school and/or childcare on Day 15

If symptoms develop