



CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

WEEKLY UPDATE

LONG-TERM CARE AND RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Greetings Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities of San Diego County,

Below information is the latest guidance and resources from the state and federal organizations, including a new testing information resource from the Food and Drug Administration, four All Facilities Letters (AFLs), and two Public Information Notices (PINs). **New** AFLs provide guidance on:

- visitation for skilled nursing facilities (AFL 20-22.3),
- extensions of the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements for acute general care hospitals (AFL 20-26.2), adult day health care centers (AFL 20-34.1), and skilled nursing facilities (20-32.1),
- and updated requirements for temporary COVID staffing waivers for skilled nursing facilities (20-32.1).

Also, please see two **new** PINs, including:

- updated guidance on testing, modification of visitation guidelines, infection prevention and control, and face coverings in adult and senior care facilities (PIN 20-23-ASC), and
- a survey available to Adult and Senior Care Program licensees (PIN 20-22-ASC).

Additionally, please review updated resources from the County of San Diego, including the “COVID-19 Watch: Weekly Coronavirus Disease 2019 Surveillance Report” and the presentation slides from Dr. Raymond Chinn’s presentation on testing during the last telebriefing (June 26, 2020), attached.

The next telebriefing for the Long-Term Care and Residential Care Sector will be on Friday, July 10, 2020, at 4pm (details below).

As we continue to give updates from our County public health perspective, please be aware that you should always confer with your licensing entity for approval of any operational changes.

If you missed any recent email updates from this sector, you can now [review them here](#). For additional information and resources, please see our website www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC.

Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership with the County of San Diego!



Announcements and News



Updates from the California Department of Public Health

CDPH publishes news and All Facilities Letters (AFLs) regularly. If you would like to receive email notifications of AFLs, please submit your request to LNCPolicy@cdph.ca.gov. See the newly released advisories below:

Letter to General Acute Care Hospitals – June 29, 2020 **NEW!**

Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Hospital Requirements

This AFL extends a temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak until March 1, 2021 and supersedes AFL 20-26.

[Click here to read AFL 20-26.2](#)

Letter to Skilled Nursing Facilities – June 26, 2020 **NEW!**

Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities

This AFL notifies long-term care (LTC) facilities of guidance for improving their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, including revised guidance for visitation, and it authorizes LTC facilities to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with the new guidance when necessary. Additionally, this AFL updates visitation guidance in accordance with revised CMS guidance in order to safely reopen SNFs to visitors.

[Click here to read AFL 20-22.3](#)

Letter to Adult Day Health Care Centers (ADHC) – June 26, 2020 **NEW!**

Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Specified ADHC Requirements

This AFL notifies ADHCs that the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements due to the state of emergency related to COVID-19 outbreak has been extended until March 1, 2021. This AFL supersedes AFL 20-34.

[Click here to read AFL 20-34.1](#)

Letter to Skilled Nursing Facilities – June 26, 2020 **NEW!**

Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Specified Skilled Nursing Facility Requirements

This AFL extends until March 1, 2021 parts of a temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak and has updated the requirements for temporary COVID staffing waivers. This AFL supersedes AFL 20-32.

[Click here to read AFL 20-32.1](#)

Letter to Skilled Nursing Facilities – June 22, 2020

Skilled Nursing Facility Infection Prevention Meetings

This AFL is to notify SNFs that—in addition to the weekly calls—CDPH is also hosting weekly SNF Infection Prevention webinars, beginning June 24, 2020. CDPH began hosting weekly SNF Infection Prevention Calls on May 7, 2020. The weekly calls are held to discuss any recent updates on the COVID-19.

[Click here to read AFL 20-50.1](#)

Letter to All Facilities – June 19, 2020

Suspension of Professional Certification Requirements for Home Health Aide Training Programs (HHA Training Programs)

This AFL notifies all HHA Training Programs of a temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements for HHA Training Programs due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

[Click here to read AFL 20-57](#)

[Click here to see a full list of recent AFLs](#)



Recent Updates from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) of CDSS publishes Provider Information Notices (PINs) to communicate important license related information to CCLD-licensed providers. The local CDSS San Diego Adult and Senior Care office can be reached at (619) 767-2300, or CCLASCPSanDiegoRO@dss.ca.gov.

Updated Guidance on Testing, Modification of Visitation Guidelines, Infection Prevention and Control, and Face Coverings in Adult and Senior Care Facilities – June 26, 2020 NEW!

Provides updated guidance to Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees related to the critical role of testing for COVID-19, modification of visitor guidelines, guidance for vigilant adherence to infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in ASC facilities, and mandated use of face coverings.

[Click here to access PIN 20-23-ASC.](#)

Facility COVID Status Survey Sent via Everbridge – June 25, 2020 NEW!

As of Monday, June 29, 2020, CCLD is using the Everbridge Mass Notification System to send Adult and Senior Care Program (ASCP) licensees a link to an ongoing survey. Licensees are asked to share critical information on COVID-19 positive staff or resident cases, staffing challenges, and PPE needs.

[Click here to access PIN 20-22-ASC.](#)



Testing Updates

As part of the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency [T3 Strategy](#) (Test, Trace, and Treat), the County partnered with 2-1-1 San Diego to [ensure San Diegans have access to testing](#) throughout the County. As we know, however, residents and program participants in the long-term care and residential care facilities may have unique testing needs, as discussed in a recent telebriefing. Below is information that may be helpful to you or your staff.

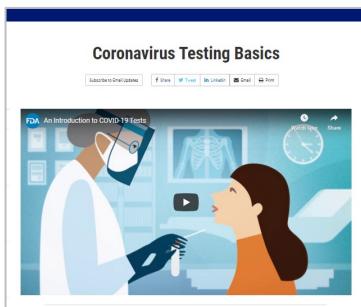
- Testing for COVID-19 is recommended for people at higher risk of developing severe complications from the disease, especially those in congregate settings and experiencing

symptoms. Per the State licensing entities, all new residents should be tested prior to being admitted to a facility.

- For a resident or program participant to be tested, first make arrangements with their medical provider or healthcare plan. A doctor will determine if he or she should be tested. If they do not have a medical provider, they can call 2-1-1. In addition to seeking testing from medical providers, there are various testing sites set up around the county. For more information, visit coronavirus-sd.com and click on [Testing](#).
- For additional testing options through commercial laboratories, please see below:

Commercial Laboratory	Website	Phone
BioCept	https://biocept.com/covid-19/	888-332-7729
Bioreference Laboratories	https://www.bioreference.com	833-684-0508
Helix	https://www.helix.com/pages/covid19-efforts	415-805-3360
LabCorp	https://www.labcorp.com/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/provider-information	858-210-0926
Mayo	https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/covid19/	800-533-1710
Mira Dx	info@miradx.com	424-387-8100
Quest Diagnostics	https://www.questdiagnostics.com/home/Covid-19/	866-697-8378
COVID-19 Testing Taskforce Lab List	https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/332/2020/06/COVID-19-Testing-Task-Force-Lab-List-updated-06_25_20-ADA.pdf	N/A (see full list on CDPH website for San Diego County labs)

- For detailed testing guidance, please review information from your licensing entity, such as:
 - o California Department of Public Health's [All Facilities Letters 2020](#).
 - o Department of Social Services- Community Care Licensing Division [Provider Information Notices 2020](#)

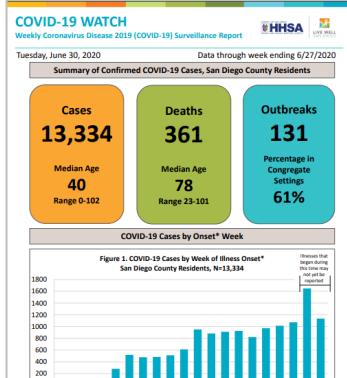


Coronavirus Testing Basics from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a resource to help educate about the different types of coronavirus tests, including approximate

processing time, what to expect, and whether or not a re-test is generally recommended.

[Click here to view the resource.](#)



County of San Diego COVID-19 Watch

The County of San Diego publishes a weekly surveillance report on the coronavirus-sd.com website called “COVID-19 Watch”.

[Click here to review the report.](#)

Additionally, visualize and track data real time on the interactive web-based dashboard developed by the County of San Diego Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch.

[See the dashboard here.](#)



Upcoming Telebriefings



Telebriefing for Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities

WHEN: Friday, July 10, 2020 at 4:00pm

Please [pre-submit your questions in advance here](#). All participants will be muted during the meeting. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the call through the online chat feature on the Zoom platform.

**Friday, July 10
at 4:00pm**

Join the telebriefing at the specified time and date using one of the options below:

- Option 1 | Computer (preferred):
 - Click on the following link <https://zoom.us/j/218631109>
 - Meeting ID: 218 631 109.

- If you have any difficulties accessing the participant link, please use option 2.
- Option 2 | Phone:
 - Dial-In Number: 1 (669) 900-6833 or 1 (346) 248-7799
 - Meeting ID: 218 631 109.

[Visit the Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector Support webpage to learn more.](#)



Telebriefing for Older Adult and Disability Service Providers

WHEN: Friday, July 17, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, July 17
at 4:00pm**

Please [pre-submit your questions at least 24 hours before the telebriefing](#), so that they can be answered on the call. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask questions during the call through the online chat feature on the Zoom platform. [Please click here for more information, including access link and call-in option.](#)



Ongoing Programs, Services, and Resources



County of San Diego COVID-19 Dashboard

The County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch has developed an interactive web-based dashboard to help San Diegans visualize and track cases in real time.

[See the dashboard.](#)



Latest San Diego County Public Health Order

The latest updates to the local Public Health Order included additional key items for essential businesses still in operation.

[Read the latest order.](#)

The information on this page is intended for those working with populations in long-term care facilities and residential facilities.

- Announcements and Updates
- County Communications
- California Department of Public Health Communications
- California Department of Social Services Communications
- Resource and Guidance Links
- Additional Resources

Recent Email Updates and Resources from the Long-Term Care and Residential Care Sector

- [June 24, 2020 Update](#)
- [June 17, 2020 Update](#)
- [June 11, 2020 Update](#)
- [June 3, 2020 Update](#)

[Click here to browse all past email updates.](#)

Additionally, check out resources and state guidance the Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities homepage: www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC.



[211 San Diego](#)

- For health or testing related questions, contact your healthcare provider. For general questions about COVID-19, information about community resources, or if you are uninsured, call **2-1-1 San Diego**.
- [Click here](#) for free COVID-19 testing information.
- [2-1-1 San Diego Flyer](#) (English & Spanish)



COVID-19 Downloadable Resources and Materials for Your Facility

- [Find FAQs, posters, videos, and other materials.](#)



[Live Well @ Home](#)

[Live Well @ Home](#) is a free resource to help community residents find tips and strategies to stay healthy in both mind and body while staying at home. Resources are organized by age group and then displayed by category, such as physical activity, mindfulness, and

social connection, to help you find the right tools to match your needs.



Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Guidelines for Group Homes for Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- [Guidelines for Direct Service Providers of Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- [Key Strategies to Prepare for COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities \(LTCFs\)](#)
- [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)
- [Considerations When Preparing for COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities](#)
- [Considerations for Memory Care Units in Long-term Care Facilities](#)

For general information about COVID-19 from the CDC, please visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.



General COVID-19 Information from State and Federal Organizations

- [California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch – COVID-19](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – COVID-19](#)
- [California Department of Social Services – COVID 19](#)
- [World Health Organization – Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Outbreak](#)



Stay Connected



For questions related to long-term care and residential care facilities,
please email: COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov.



Get the latest information about what's happening across the county
with COVID-19.



Text **COSD COVID-19** to **468-311**

to get text alert updates from the County of San Diego.





UPDATE ON TESTING FOR SARS COV-2

June 26, 2020

Raymond Chinn, MD, FIDSA, FSHEA

Epidemiology Unit, Epidemiology & Immunization Services Branch
Health & Human Services Agency, County of San Diego



TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

- Discuss the various types testing available to detect SARS CoV-2
- Review spectrum of COVID-19 in the context of testing
- Characterize the challenges in the interpretation of SARS CoV-2 testing

DEFINITIONS



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- Emergency Use Authorization does not equate with FDA approval
- Analytical and clinical sensitivity
 - Sensitivity and specificity – false positive and false negative
 - Positive and negative predictive value
- Types of tests: viral and antibody
 - Viral: molecular, detection of antigen
 - Antibody: response to antigen

DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR SARS COV-2 FOR VIRUS



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SAN DIEGO

Molecular test:

- Detects genetic material of the virus, generally using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) platform
- the rapid test appears to miss some cases – but not all platforms are the same; not for use in asymptomatic individuals
- Specimens:
 - Nasopharyngeal (NP); nasal mid-turbinate; anterior nares: equivalent
 - Deep respiratory
 - Saliva – home use; point of care
- Future directions: combination of influenza/RSV/SARS CoV-2

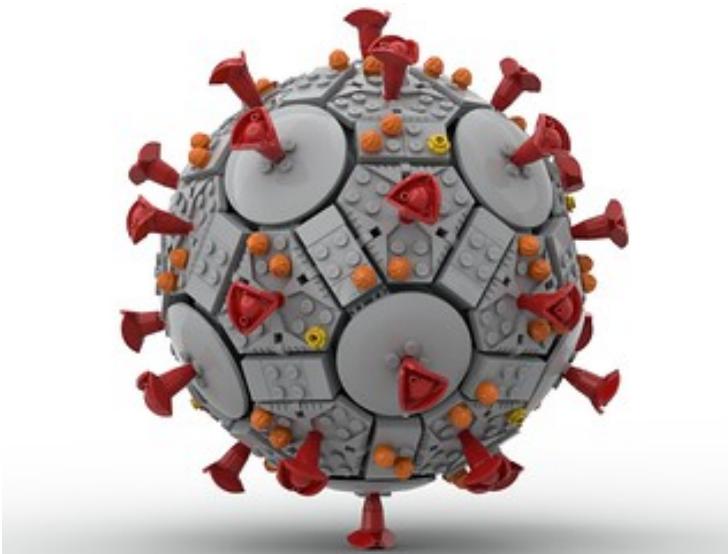
Antigen test:

- detects certain proteins that are part of the virus: nasal swab
- Produce results in minutes.
- A positive antigen test result is considered very accurate, but there's an increased; but false negatives so not as sensitive as molecular tests; false positives related to transport solution

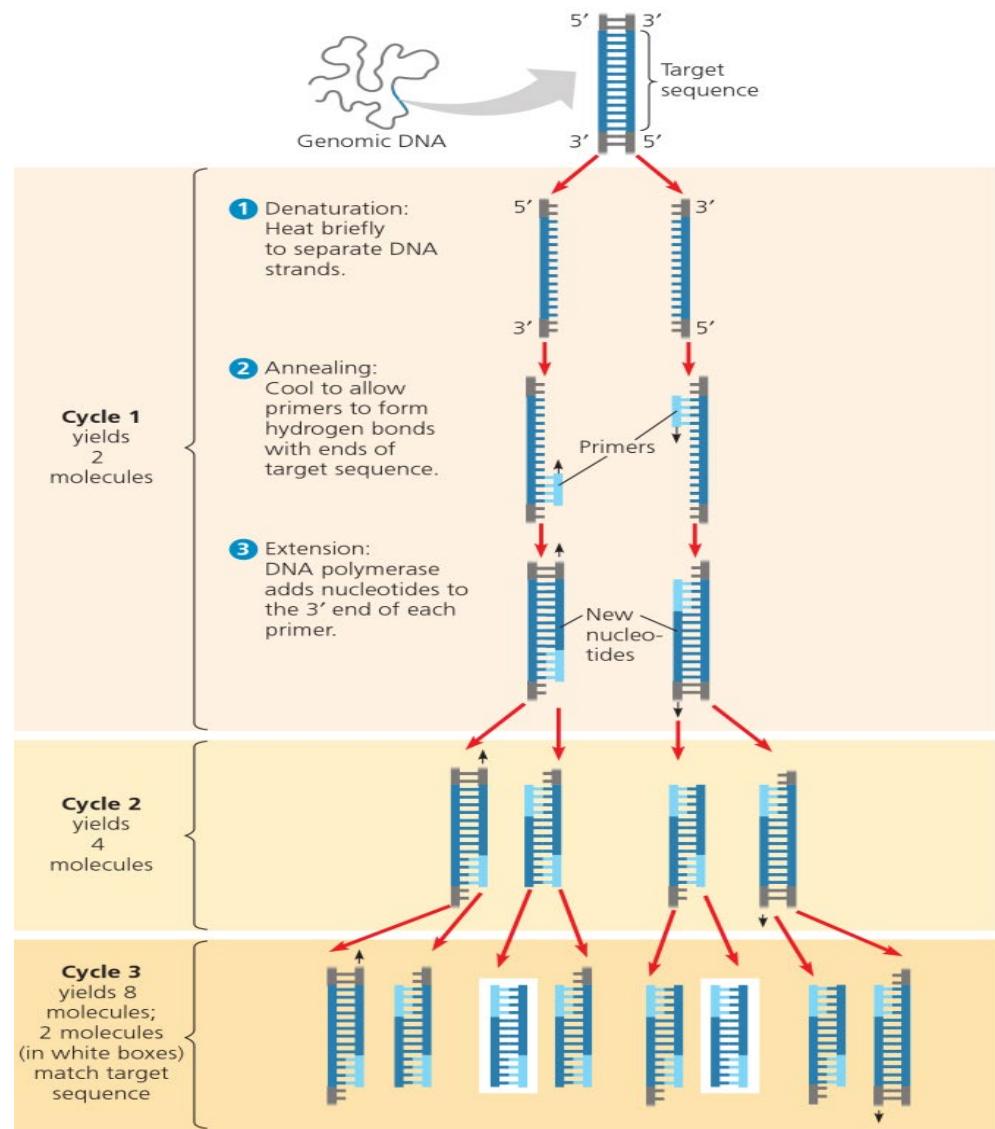
POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR)



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Cycle Threshold



ANTIBODY TESTING

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/antibody-tests.html>



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

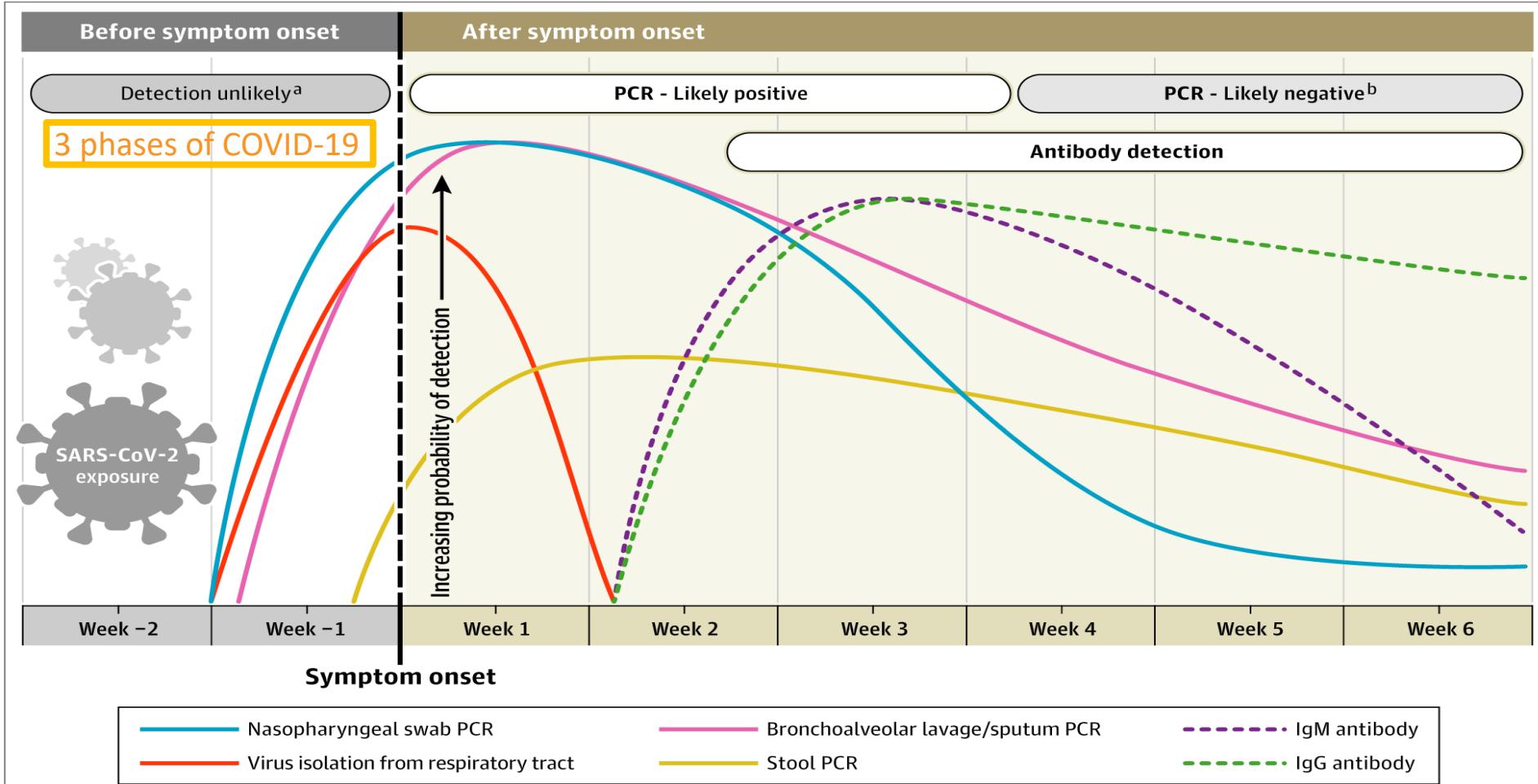
- NOT for the diagnosis of acute infection, except in certain situations
- IgG detection vs. IgM
- A positive antibody test could indicate a person has been infected at some point in the past
- Antibodies start developing within 1 to 3 weeks after infection.
- Does not guarantee immunity: neutralizing antibodies
- Unknown how long antibodies last
- False positive and false negative occur: dependent on prevalence of COVID-19; generally 5% is used to determine sensitivity and specificity of sampling.
- Not to be used to determine work duties or use of PPE

INTERPRETING DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR SARS-COV-2



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

JAMA. 2020;323(22):2249-2251. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.8259



Estimated variation over time in diagnostic tests for detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection relative to symptom onset, estimated time intervals and rates of viral detection are based on data from several published reports. Because of variability in values among studies, estimated time intervals should be considered approximations and the probability of detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection is presented qualitatively. SARS-CoV-2 indicates severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.^aDetection only occurs if patients are followed up proactively from the time of exposure.^bMore likely to register a negative than a positive result by PCR of a nasopharyngeal swab.

A TOOL FOR OUTBREAK INVESTIGATIONS



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SAN DIEGO

- Whole genome sequencing to identify relatedness
- A process that determines the complete DNA sequence of an organism's genome at a single time

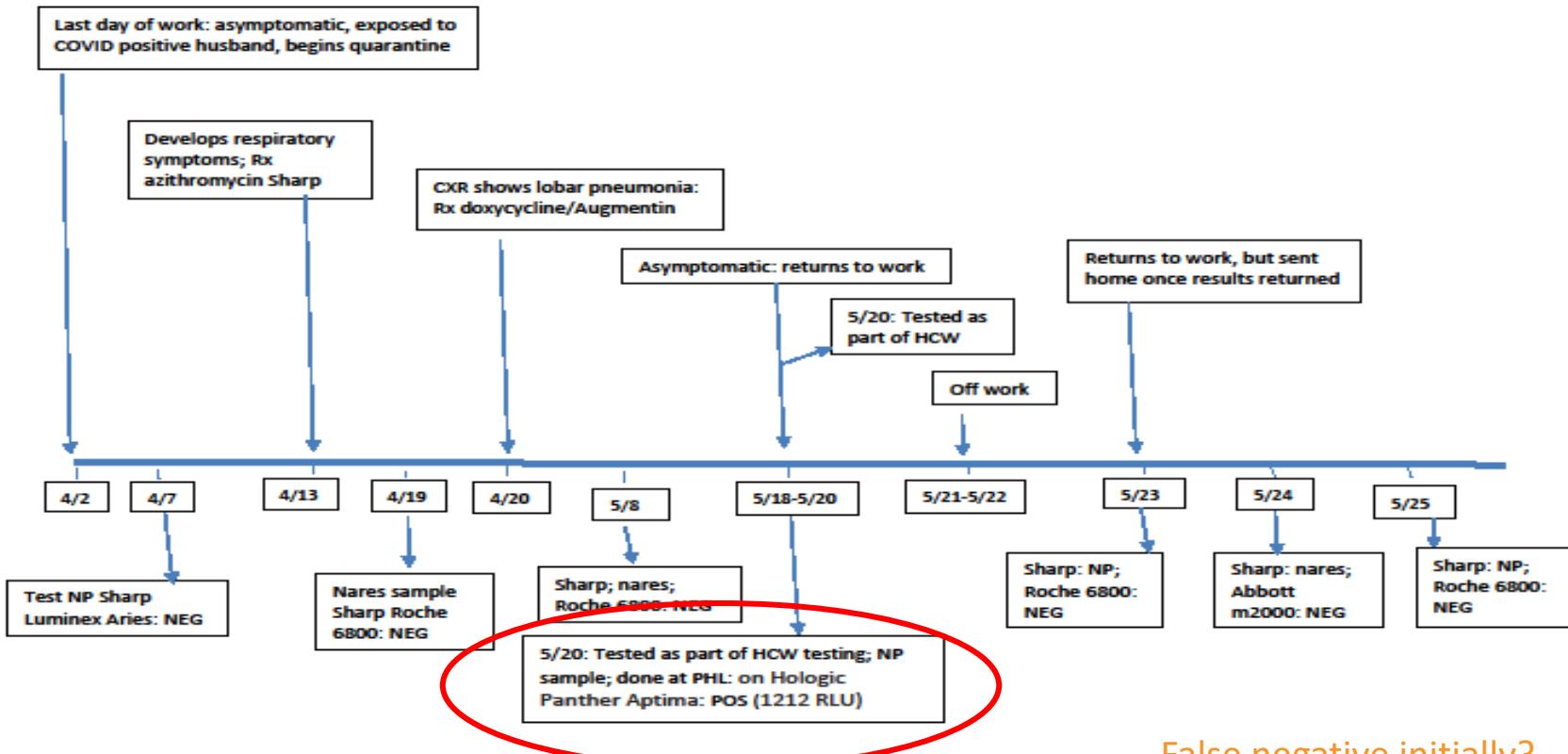


CASES





LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO



False negative initially?
Antibody test

CASE 2



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

- 77yo M w/ hx of Parkinsons, diabetes mellitus type II, hypertension, coronary artery disease, but independent living resident.
- Presented hospital with increased confusion; no respiratory symptoms 5/25
- Rapid (Abbott platform) test on admission (5/25), and again the next day (5/26), both NEGATIVE
- 5/26 swab for standard COVID testing through Hologic Platform, also negative
- Transferred to SNF on 5/30, where they also collected an admission screening and sent to LabCorp (Roche platform). Result reported 6/3 as POSITIVE.
- Transferred to acute care 6/4 for altered mental status.
- On admission to acute care, Scripps Mercy collected another COVID swab 6/4 (Hologic platform) and result was NEGATIVE as was 1 on 6/5.
- False Positive??? Cycle Time 37.5
- Antibody?

CASE 3



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SAN DIEGO

- Asymptomatic MD
- Routine screen at SNF
- Positive molecular PCR with CT of 37.5
- Repeat molecular using different platform the day after, NEG
- False Positive?
- Antibody?

Testing at SNF
Screening multiple negatives, 1 positive
What to do?