

## RETURN TO SCHOOL/CHILDCARE/WORK GUIDANCE FOLLOWING A POSITIVE SYMPTOM SCREEN FOR COVID-19 AND NO EXPOSURE

This guidance can be used by schools, childcare and parents when the COVID-19 rate in the community is MODERATE — HIGH (>25 cases/100,000 population over 14 days) and applies to persons with:

- One or more new, unexplained symptom consistent with COVID-19, **AND**
- No known COVID-19 exposure in prior 14 days

Does the person have:

- **Any class A** symptom of any duration, *or*
- **Two or more class B** symptoms of any duration, *or*
- **One or more class B** symptom(s) lasting > 24 hours

Person must isolate for 10 days after symptom onset unless:

1. Person receives a negative PCR COVID test.
2. Healthcare provider provides documentation of alternative diagnosis that explains all symptoms without performing a COVID test.

Does the person have:

- **One class B** symptom lasting less than < 24 hours in duration

Person must remain isolated for at least 24 hours. Evaluation and COVID test could be considered but is not necessary if symptoms resolve. If class B symptom resolves within 24 hours, person can return without healthcare provider evaluation or testing. If class B symptom lasts > 24 hours and/or more symptoms develop, follow algorithm to the left.

Symptoms consistent with COVID-19	
Class A Symptoms	Class B Symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fever (defined as subjective or 100.4°F or higher)</b></li> <li>• <b>Cough</b></li> <li>• <b>Loss of sense of taste and/or smell</b></li> <li>• <b>Shortness of breath</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Muscle or body aches</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Congestion or runny nose</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea (<i>defined as two or more loose stools in 24 hours</i>)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Examples of alternative diagnosis made by healthcare provider include childhood rash illness, acute otitis media, or a lab confirmed diagnosis such as strep throat or non-COVID-19 viral pathogen. If testing for other viral pathogens, strongly recommend testing for COVID-19 as well.