



Healthcare Summit Questions:

Q: What do we know about antibody testing? Do you have to quarantine if you have a positive antibody test, but not a previous viral test? I am asking about someone who was sick with COVID symptoms but was not tested at the time of illness.

A: Antibody tests are not standards of care for diagnosing acute COVID disease. There are a lot of false negatives and false positives. Currently they're being used for research purposes only. We do not isolate anyone based on antibody tests. We recommend antigen or PCR tests.

Q: Why is there a need to isolate for 10 days per CDC if you are around a person who is positive for COVID when you have a mask on if masks work?

A: Masks are one part of our prevention message. Social distancing and washing your hands and wearing a mask will prevent COVID transmission. A contact by definition is being within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes, with or without a mask. Contacts would not isolate for 10 days. Contacts need to quarantine for 14 days, watching for symptoms. If symptoms develop, get tested as soon as possible. If not, get tested on day 10.

Q: How young should our kids get the flu vaccine?

A: Children 6 months and older should receive the flu vaccine

Q: I'm aware detectable levels remain for UP TO 3 months; what are the various departments seeing for minimum times to remain detectable? Also, are we seeing any recurring/second infections?

A: Many people who test positive will remain positive for up to three months. There are anecdotal reports of individuals getting COVID twice within a three-month period of time, but the CDC has not confirmed any of those cases.

Q: How can citizens that are hearing and/or visually impaired patients connect with healthcare providers via telemedicine?

A: Some web-based platforms have captions and/or interpreter services included. Others may provide multi-provider consultations that allows for various screens one to see the caption/interpreter and a second to see the doctor. Others who may not... my recommendation would be to ask your doctor what kind of access you can have with the telehealth system. In addition, here is a great resource: <https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/blog/telehealth-care-deaf-and-hard-hearing>