

Brown County Health & Human Services

Public Health Division

Dear Community, Business, and Human Resource Leaders,

Brown County Public Health (BCPH) would like to share relevant updates to guidance and recommendations for our community to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and support our healthcare systems.

ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

Brown County Public Health is aligning with the new isolation and quarantine guidance from earlier this month which the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WI DHS) adopted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). See the guidance here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

ANTIGEN TESTS

WI DHS no longer requires a confirmatory lab-based molecular test (PCR) for symptomatic individuals when a rapid antigen test from a provider is positive. Additionally, if an asymptomatic (no symptoms) individual has a negative antigen test from a provider, a confirmatory PCR test is not required. **Please review and update your COVID-19 policies to reflect the recent recommendations and guidance.**

Please note: BCPH will no longer be providing COVID-19 confirmatory letters to individuals for return to work or clearance purposes.

AT HOME TESTS

If individuals are symptomatic and take an at home (over the counter) test and it comes back positive, please trust that result and have them start their isolation period. If they are symptomatic and it comes back negative, recommend that they get a PCR test from [a provider or test site](#). If they cannot, encourage them to follow the 5-day isolation guidelines (day 0 is the day their symptoms started).

STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Tests for COVID-19 are in short supply. If individuals have signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and are unable to get a test, either antigen or PCR, it is recommended they stay home, isolate for the proper amount of time, and follow recommended guidance for positive individuals. This updated guidance will reduce burden on local hospitals and clinics while minimizing the spread of COVID-19 locally. Our local healthcare systems have asked that individuals do not go to emergency rooms or urgent cares seeking COVID-19 tests for mild symptoms. Lastly, masking, distancing, getting vaccinated, and handwashing continue to be effective tools to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The above guidance is not a substitute for medical advice from a medical professional. When health concerns arise, please have your employees contact their primary care physicians for medical advice as soon as possible.

Need to report cases of COVID-19 at your business? Have more questions? Visit www.stayhealthybc.com for tools and resources to support your business.

Thank you for all you continue to do to keep your employees safe and healthy.

Brown County Public Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Brown County
Health & Human Services