

Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department

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For Immediate Release

Concern for testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Harrison County, WV. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus designated SARS-CoV-2.

As of March 15, 2020 West Virginia has tested 41 individuals with 38 negative test results and 3 tests pending. We do not have any community spread in West Virginia at this time.

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or have recently traveled to a community where there is ongoing spread of COVID-19 and develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#), call your healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure. They will decide whether you need to be tested. Currently there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill may be able to isolate and care for themselves at home.

Testing can be obtained locally by calling your private provider and they can send an order for lab testing. Please call this number, **304-598-6000 option 4, BEFORE** going to the hospital for testing. If you **do not have a medical provider**, please call 304-598-6000 option 4 to speak to a nurse. They will tell you when and if you need be tested. Please help us keep our doctor offices and hospitals safe.

The symptom of COVID-19 which may appear **2-14 days after exposure are:**

- Fever

- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If you are very sick get medical attention immediately

If you develop **emergency warning signs** for COVID-19 get **medical attention immediately**. If you call 911 please inform them you may have been exposed to COVID-19.

Emergency warning signs include*:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, you should take steps, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/index.html> , to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.