COVID-19 Drive-Through (or Walk-Through) Testing Instructions

Before Arrival

- If your child is in a car seat, please try to position the car seat in the back seat on the driver’s side of the car to make it easier for us to collect the sample.
- If at all possible, leave other children at home.
- Your primary care provider (PCP) will fax a registration form to UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland to pre-register your child.
- You will receive a call with the appointment date and time.
- We will only test those patients who have been referred by a PCP and were pre-registered.

NOTE: Patients will not see a medical provider or have an exam at the specimen collection site. It is for sample collection only. If patients have moderate to severe suspected COVID-19 illness and need a patient visit and exam, please talk to your provider to identify the appropriate care environment (telemedicine visit, primary care or through the emergency department).

For your safety and the safety of everyone on the test site, our team members will be wearing gloves, masks, face shields and gowns.

Instructions for Arrival

Testing location:
- Drive-up: Enter the driveway at 5275 Claremont Ave. There may be a line. Be patient!
- For those arriving on foot or by public transportation: Enter the building at 5400 Telegraph Ave.
- Arrive exactly when your appointment begins to avoid having to wait in a line.
- As you enter the driveway, pull forward to the stop sign, roll down your window and tell the security guard your child’s name and date of birth. Move forward as directed.
- You and your child should wear masks. If you don’t have masks, they will be provided.

How testing is done:
- You (the parent) will be instructed how to best support your child. You might need to get into the back seat and hold your child’s head while the nurse obtains the swab sample.
- This type of test uses secretions that are in the nasal passages. In order to gather a sample best suited for an accurate test result, we use a swab. A swab is similar to a long, thin Q-tip. We gently insert the swab into the mouth and then the upper nasal passage through a nostril.
- Most patients find this a bit uncomfortable and will typically sneeze in reaction. The swab feels unusual but does not hurt. Please try to have tissues (Kleenex) handy to wipe your child’s nose after the sample has been collected and if sneezing occurs.

What happens after the test:
- We ask that you return home and continue isolation for your child and quarantine for your family until your results come back. You will be contacted regarding your child’s COVID-19 test results by phone within one to two days of sample collection.
- Similar to other visits, we will process the appointment through your insurance plan, but do not expect that you will incur any expenses as a result of COVID-19 testing.
- You will be given a summary from the hospital/clinic team and written instructions from your county of residence about isolation and quarantine at home.
COVID-19 Testing by Appointment Only

Walk-in location:
5400 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94607

Drive-thru location:
5275 Claremont Ave.
Oakland, CA 94607
First parking lot entrance