

April 27, 2020

From Michigan State Medical Society:

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced this week it has expanded testing eligibility criteria as the state continues to increase COVID-19 testing supplies and access.

Here are three important things we want every health care provider to know about the latest testing guidance:

- **Any Michigander displaying mild symptoms or any essential worker still reporting to work in person, whether symptomatic or not, is eligible to get a test** with an order from a health care provider.
- **If your facility does not have enough swabs or other supplies to take a sample from everyone who should be tested, please provide a test order and direct the patient to a nearby testing site.** Testing sites can be found by visiting Michigan.gov/CoronavirusTest and entering the local ZIP code. It is important that the patient contact the testing site before arrival to check hours and whether the site operates as a drive-thru or by appointment.
- **For patients concerned about the cost of a test,** the test is free for most individuals. Many insurance providers are waiving copays, and those with Medicaid or the Healthy Michigan Plan also have no cost.

Testing remains critical. Based on recommendations by the Harvard Global Health Institute, we need to complete 15,000 tests statewide each day. **We are not there yet, but we can get there together with the help of every provider testing people who meet the new criteria or directing patients to a local testing site.**

Thank you to every provider and professional for unwavering dedication to the health of our residents. We are grateful for your work, your sacrifice and your partnership.