

Questions about COVID-19

Is there a way to purchase or obtain hand sanitizer, personal protective equipment (PPE), or similar supplies?

At this time, these items are only available through the normal retail channels. The Division will advise if federal, state or local partners are able to make them available in the future. Please be aware that use of PPE without proper training can increase the risk of infection and transmission.

What if someone develops COVID-19 signs or symptoms?

Contact a health care professional if you, an employee, or an individual in your care develops COVID signs or symptoms, including fever, cough and shortness of breath. Your healthcare provider will determine if they need to be seen and if they meet the criteria for certain tests, such as those for the flu, COVID-19 or other infections. More information about COVID 19 signs and symptoms is available at: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf

Please refer to your local public health authority for COVID-19 reporting requirements and recommendations for what to do if someone in a home or program is diagnosed: <http://localhealth.nj.gov>

How can an individual get tested for COVID-19?

Contact your healthcare professional to discuss your symptoms. They will determine if testing is needed. Testing is not indicated for all circumstances. COVID-19 presents with signs and symptoms that may be indistinguishable from much more common respiratory viruses. At this time, respiratory illnesses are still more likely to be due to common viruses (e.g., influenza, common cold) than COVID-19. If a community has cases of COVID-19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and will follow up on next steps.

How do I care for someone with COVID-19?

A medical professional will provide advice on the care of someone with COVID-19. If possible, identify a room or area of the household that can be used to separate someone who is sick. A health care provider may make this recommendation based on the person's diagnosis.

Make sure you have a backup plan in place in case an individual's primary caregivers or support staff are unable to provide care. Talk to family, relatives, and friends about how they can help.

Will the Division be able to care for a sick individual is a family or provider cannot?

The Division is not able to offer medical care to sick individuals. However, if an individual is too sick to be cared for at home or is required to quarantine and cannot do so in their current living arrangement please contact the Division to see if we can be of assistance.