MONTANA Project

WHY GET A COVID-19 TEST IF I AM ASYMPTOMATIC?

WHAT IS ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING?

Such testing is done on **people who have no symptoms** and who are **not close contacts of someone who has tested positive** for COVID-19. It often involves **rapid tests**, where results are received quickly. If positive, however, it is a **good idea to confirm your positive result with a QPCR laboratory test** (which takes longer but may be more accurate). Tests for asymptomatic individuals are not available everywhere, so it is a good idea to **contact your local health care professionals to see if this is available in your community**.

WHY IS TESTING ASYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS IMPORTANT

- To allow for **rapid detection** of COVID-19, and enable **quick isolation**, **testing**, **and management** of suspected cases
- To enable quick detection to contain outbreaks among vulnerable populations
- To *understand the impact of the pandemic* on local healthcare systems and the community
- *Many of those infected* with COVID-19 are *asymptomatic* or have yet to develop symptoms, *but can still spread the virus*.
- Screening of those without symptoms or known COVID-19 contacts can be important to identifying infected individuals early and breaking the chain of infection.
- To *monitor the spread and intensity* of COVID-19 in a *community*
- To *understand the severity* of COVID-19 and spectrum of illness
- To *understand risk factors* for severe cases of COVID-19 disease and transmission
- To monitor for changes in the virus that causes COVID-19

YOU PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE

You can help **protect yourself and your community** by **participating in asymptomatic testing** where it is available, getting **tested when you have symptoms** of COVID-19, and by **cooperating with health officials** who are conducting contact tracing and cluster investigations.

REFERENCES: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html



Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity

OR YOU AND YOUR CLOSE CONTACTS

FOR YOUR COMMUNITY ND BEYOND

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Thank you to Angie Mangels for the beautiful illustrations featured here.