



Monroe County Health Department

Monroe County, Indiana

Health Department	Futures Family Planning Clinic	Public Health Clinic
119 W. 7th Street (812) 349-2543	119 W. 7th Street (812) 349-7343	333 E. Miller Drive (812) 353-3244

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Penny Caudill

812-349-2068

pcaudill@co.monroe.in.us

LIMITED CORONAVIRUS TESTING, GUIDANCE AVAILABLE

BLOOMINGTON – As stories of positive coronavirus cases increase in Bloomington, the Monroe County Health Department states there are no confirmed cases yet reported.

Limited testing for COVID-19 is done at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Laboratory. Because of the small number of test materials received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), testing has been tightly restricted to those with a critical risk.

“We anticipated that testing would become more available but it has not. We are hopeful that Indiana will receive more test materials soon and that this situation will improve” says Health Officer Dr. Thomas Sharp.

In the meantime, the only option for testing for those with symptoms or concerns is to find a provider who uses a commercial lab that performs the tests. Because of these limits, some patients with symptoms may be told that they can't be tested but to treat the illness as if they have coronavirus and to take necessary precautions.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever over 100.4, cough and shortness of breath, which can be symptoms of other infections as well. The only way to definitely know if an infection is caused by COVID-19 is by testing.

While Governor Holcomb recently announced statewide steps to limit transmission of coronavirus, there have been no locally mandated closures. <https://calendar.in.gov/site/gov/event/gov-holcomb-announces-new-steps-to-protect-public-from-covid-19/> Each facility should review and/or create a plan for COVID-19 using applicable CDC guidance that will walk them through each step while considering their clientele, site and possible risk of exposure.

Monroe County Health Department www.co.monroe.in.us/HealthDepartment



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Interim Guidance for Community and Faith Leaders <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html>

Guidance for School and Childcare <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

Interim Business Guidance for Businesses and Employers
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

Interim Guidance for Homeless Shelters <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>

Interim Guidance for EMS Systems <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>

Resources for Healthcare Facilities <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html>

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