

To: Horizon employees and physicians
From: Brittany Stein, Acting Regional Director Employee Health, Wellness and Safety
Date: May 25, 2023
Re: Updated Health Care Worker (HCW) Guidelines for Respiratory Illnesses, PCR testing for HCW

As we transition to living with COVID-19, the guidance for testing for health care workers (HCWs) has been adapted to reflect the decreasing incidence of COVID-19 in the community. Effective May 26, 2023, Employee Health is introducing [updated guidelines](#) for unknown respiratory illnesses and confirmed respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19, Influenza and RSV.

PCR/POCT testing will no longer be required, and the onsite Employee Testing Clinics will be closed on May 26, 2023. All HCWs with respiratory illness must follow the department process for leave of absence due to illness and report this to their manager/supervisor. Return to work recommendations for unknown and known respiratory illnesses can be found on the Employee Health Skyline resource pages [here](#).

HCWs requesting a PCR through a health care provider may report positive results to their manager/supervisor and follow the [diagnosed respiratory illness recommendation](#) on return to work for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV illnesses.

All HCWs are encouraged to wear a mask if they are experiencing **ANY** respiratory symptoms and when they have been in close contact with those experiencing respiratory illnesses. [Infection Prevention and Control protocols for outbreak management](#) will continue to be followed.

We sincerely thank all the HCWs at the onsite testing centers who have worked diligently to provide such a valuable service to Horizon staff and physicians. We all appreciate all you have done.

Thank you to all the HCWs for your continued diligence in following recommendations related to COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV! Following IPC protocols helps to ensure your safety and the safety of our vulnerable patient and client population.