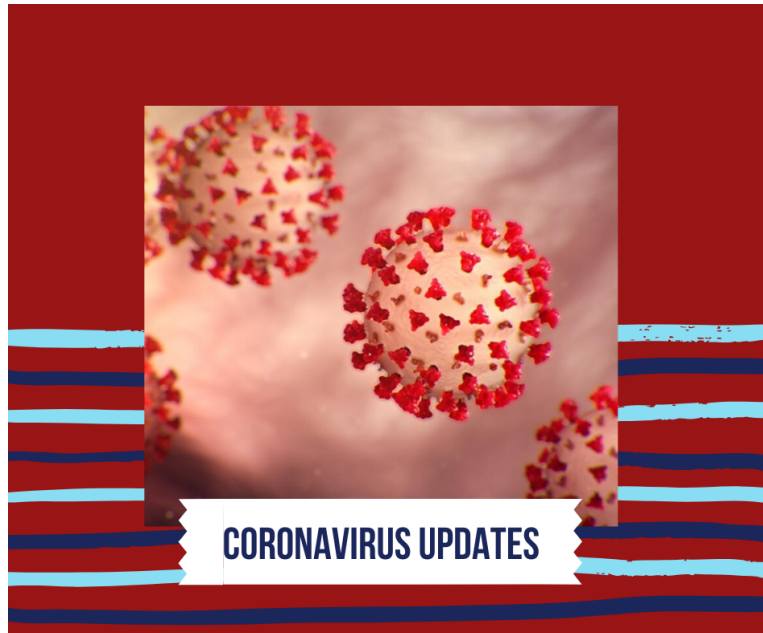


COVID-19 Q&A

Q. What is the process for getting tested?

A. The County and Township follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and NJ Department of Health (NJDOH) guidance to determine who should be tested for COVID-19 at the NJ Public Health Environmental Laboratory. If you exhibit symptoms, please contact your health care professional; he or she may write you a prescription for a Coronavirus test if they think you may have been exposed. Please call ahead of time to tell your doctor you are coming; they may have specific instructions for you.



Patients should be evaluated and discussed with local and state public health on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is uncertain for travel or exposure.

Clinical Features	&	Epidemiologic Risk
Fever ¹ or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath)	AND	Any person, including health care workers ² who has had close contact ³ with a laboratory confirmed ⁴ COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization	AND	A history of travel from affected geographic areas ⁵ within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g. pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization ⁴ and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza) ⁶	AND	No source of exposure has been identified

Commercial labs are offering COVID-19 testing to individuals who meet certain criteria. These tests must be ordered and specimens collected by health care providers in their offices. Testing is not available at individual lab offices (i.e., local LabCorp or Quest labs). Do not go to a commercial lab and ask to be tested for COVID-19. Work with your health care provider to coordinate testing. All costs and fees associated with commercial laboratories is the responsibility of the patient.

Q. Has the affected BH resident's whereabouts been investigated to figure out who else may have been exposed?

A. (See our website for updates) bit.ly/BHcovid19

As of Tuesday (March 10), based on the contact tracing investigation that Union County has been doing, alongside the New Jersey Department of Health, this resident's whereabouts prior to being hospitalized do not pose a public health risk to the community. Any person who may have been at risk would have already been notified and advised to self-quarantine for 14 days. The family has also been quarantined.

Q. Are kids getting tested if parents are confirmed positive or may have been exposed?

A. Anyone who is seeking testing should contact their health care provider to determine if testing appropriate.

Q. Has UCOHM (Union County Office of Health Management) contacted all individuals who may have come into contact with the patient diagnosed with COVID-19?

A. As of Tuesday, March 10, based on the contact tracing investigation that Union County has been doing, alongside the New Jersey Department of Health, the resident's whereabouts prior to being hospitalized do not pose a public health risk to the community. Any person who may have been at risk would have already been notified and advised to self-quarantine. The family has also been quarantined.

Q. What is our Health Official's role?

A. Our Health Officer, who is also the Health Director for Union County, is the Township's conduit (including the Board of Education) to the County, State and Federal health agencies/departments for all health-related information. Our Office of Emergency Management has a direct line of communication with our Health Officials, as does our Mayor, Administrator, and local Board of Health Secretary. This Official provides guidance on how to handle, as well as response to, any health issues that may arise in the Township.

Q. Is the Health Official in constant contact with affected families/individuals?

A. Yes

Q. When will schools be opened?

A. The Board of Education makes the determination on this.

Q. Who should I call/what should I do if I think I have symptoms?

A. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Those symptoms may appear within 2 to 14 days of exposure and can range from mild to severe. If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, call your healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms. Communicate travel history and symptoms before arriving at a doctor's office or health care facility, enabling the provider to determine the best setting for you to receive care. They may have specific instructions for you before you head into the office, and likely will instruct you to wear a mask. They will decide whether you need to be tested, but keep in mind that there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill are able [to isolate at home](#).

Stay home except to get medical care: Restrict your activities to limit the spread of the virus. If your symptoms are not severe, consider going online and using [telehealth](#) for 24/7 access to board certified physicians for consultations, diagnosis and treatment

Separate yourself from others.

Q. Should I drive myself to the hospital or call emergency services?

A. Drive yourself if you can after getting instructions from your doctor, unless you are physically unable. But your first call is to your doctor.

Q. Is it safe to go to the store, etc...?

A. At this time the risk of widespread transmission to the average resident remains low. As a reminder, if you are experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath call your healthcare provider prior to arriving at the office.