



### **Presbyterian Temporarily Discontinues Asymptomatic Testing for COVID-19**

Due to an unanticipated disruption in COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing supplies, all Presbyterian, University of New Mexico Hospital, and Lovelace Health Systems locations, including drive-thru testing sites, are temporarily discontinuing asymptomatic testing.

All three health systems will now only conduct testing for patients with COVID-19 symptoms. Each health system will continue to follow inpatient testing protocol and protocols for outpatient surgeries and procedures. Presbyterian will continue to also test those with an exposure to a known COVID-19 infection.

Symptoms meeting the criteria for testing include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Presbyterian patients needing a test prior to a surgery or procedure, including expectant mothers scheduled for inductions, can still receive a test.

To ensure timely access to a COVID-19 test for the most vulnerable patients, we encourage community members with no COVID-19 symptoms or known exposure and workers looking for a clearance for their employer to visit the New Mexico Department of Health website for alternative testing locations (<https://cvprovider.nmhealth.org/directory.html>).

If asymptomatic testing for community members resumes at our locations, we will make the public aware. We thank the community for your patience and cooperation during this time.