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## July 6, 2020- Key COVID-19 Updates for the Whitewater Community

### Key Walworth County Updates

#### *Community Testing*

- Two new community testing events have been planned. Additional details will be provided later this week.
- Big Foot High School July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>
- Lake Geneva location TBD for July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

#### *DHS Updated testing recommendations*

- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has updated their recommendations for COVID-19 testing. Testing is now recommended for the following groups:
- **Individuals experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19**
- **Individuals who have been in close contact with a person with COVID-19, regardless of symptoms**
- **Asymptomatic individuals who have been instructed by a public health agency or a health care provider to get a COVID-19 test for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection**

#### *Evidence-based prevention Strategies*

- In a short video, Dr. Westergaard discusses evidence-based strategies for reducing transmission. He also discusses mask mandates. [Epidemiologist Stresses Evidence-based Prevention Strategies](#)

#### *School Reopening*

- Schools are in the process of developing plans for fall instruction. The following resources were recently released to aid their planning:

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#), COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry

[Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#), Schools for Health: Risk Reduction Strategies for Reopening Schools

[Kaiser Permanente](#), Thriving Schools: Playbook for School Reopening

*New Local Phased Guidance*

- Public Health has released a companion document of phased recommendations based on the Badger Bounce Back plan that can assist businesses and other public entities to move forward incrementally
- The recommendations are broken down by sector and type of organization.
- Based on our current disease status and metrics we recommend that guidance in Phase 2 be used to guide actions currently.
- This guidance is available on the [county website](#) in both English and Spanish

### Daily Frequently Asked Question(s)

#### Considering the increase in confirmed COVID-19 cases among people under age 30, what is the guidance regarding testing of asymptomatic persons?

Testing of Asymptomatic persons is now recommended for:

- People who have been in close contact of a person with COVID-19, regardless of symptoms
- People who have been instructed by a **public health agency** to get a COVID-19 test as part of a public health investigation, regardless of symptoms

Scenarios in which public health agencies may recommend testing for asymptomatic people include the following:

- Investigation of outbreaks, such as multiple cases in a workplace, residential facility or correctional facility
- Testing all residents and staff in high-risk congregate facilities to prevent or contain outbreaks
- When testing is needed to contain an epidemic in a community with high-level transmission, *and* resources are sufficient for appropriate follow-up and case investigation, as determined in partnership with state and local health officials

Scenarios in which health care providers may recommend testing for asymptomatic people include the following:

- As part of a test-based strategy to inform return-to-work decisions for individuals diagnosed with COVID-19
- Outbreak investigations in health care settings, to understand prevalence among staff and patients
- Screening before aerosol generating procedures, such as endoscopy, dentistry, or procedures requiring intubation