

Linn County Health Department
Drive-Thru Testing Plan for COVID-19

Linn County's approach to drive-thru COVID-19 testing consists of the following steps:

- Use of an off-site location (not at the county health department). Location is:
 - County owned
 - Is a small building with restroom access (only for staff)
 - Building is set up for lab testing
 - Address is not public knowledge (patients given when appointment set)
- Modified the health department's CLIA certificate of waiver to multi-site
 - CLIA at KDHE can be change this, contact: kdhe.Clia2@ks.gov
 - Turn-around time is very fast for this (just took a few minutes)
- Rule out the flu before sending in a COVID-19 specimen for testing
 - Rapid flu testing conducted for each patient
 - Cost is approximately \$15/test
 - Linn County Commissioners approved absorbing the cost of the flu testing
 - If the flu test is negative then send in a COVID-19 test sample
- Set-up for the testing:
 - Linn County Public Works assembled two "tents" with three walls
 - Not true tents but rock/salt style covers, with enough space for a vehicle in each one
 - Patient pulls into the tent area and waits in their car
 - Health department staff member goes out to the vehicle in appropriate PPE (Linn County has PAPRS) for the specimen collection
 - Health department staff goes into the building to do the flu testing and, if necessary, COVID-19 packaging while the patient leaves the site
- All information (instructions, quarantine guidelines, and other relevant information sharing) is provided via telephone with the patient
- After the rapid-flu test is done appropriate facility cleaning is done and doffing of PPE occurs (inside the lab room)
 - Patient is called with the results of the rapid flu test
 - If flu test is positive patient is referred to their PCP
 - If patient lacks a PCP then the LHD has standing orders to contact the medical director for any prescription which is called in to the pharmacy of choice
- Security of the drive-thru during testing is provided by the Sheriff's Department
- Transportation of a COVID-19 sample to the lab has been arranged with the Sheriff's Department
- Other relevant aspects:
 - Appointments are made for the testing; health department staff does not stay out at the site all day

- Appointments are spaced apart by roughly 15-20 minutes (so that PAPR is only put on once)
 - Gloves and gowns are changed between patients
- The two tents are so it is possible to have two patients close together if needed but initial steps have been to try and maintain one patient at a time at the testing site
- Standing orders for testing and treatment by the medical director