

HOT SHEET

APPROVED 3/10/2020 2:00 PM

Mixed Messages from Providers and Public Health

My provider is not testing patients for COVID-19, but Public Health says I should talk to my provider about testing.

We know this is frustrating. While testing is becoming more available, there are limitations in providers' capacity to obtain samples. We are working hard with healthcare providers to identify locations where people who need testing can get it. We'll update our website (kingcounty.gov/covid) as soon as we have identified these locations.

Also, if you are asymptomatic, you don't need to get tested. Not everyone who is sick needs testing, particularly if you have mild illness. Even if your healthcare provider isn't doing testing, they can help you determine if you need test.

[Note to call taker: if the person is experiencing severe illness, like trouble breathing, follow clinical instructions.]