

Promotes and provides innovative quality health services, prevention, and education for our communities

281 LaClair Street, Coos Bay, OR 97420 p. 541-266-6700 f. 541-888-8726 TTY Relay 711

January 18th, 2022

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## We are currently experiencing a shortage of COVID tests

The State of Oregon has increased testing lately do to Omicron surges and we are running out of testing supplies across the state. Please understand that until additional testing supplies arrive you may be turned away from testing unless you are considered a priority population.

## **Priority Populations:**

- Symptomatic people who require medical care are the highest priority.
- Ages 50 or older
- Ages 10 or younger
- Immune Compromised or High Risk Persons

## No Testing Needed at This Time:

- Symptomatic people with mild symptoms who do not require medical care
- Most contacts of cases
- Screening testing, employee testing and pre-travel or event testing are not allowed with state distributed Binax tests.
- If you have symptoms and cannot get tested:
- Assume your symptoms are COVID-19. Isolate yourself from others for 5 days. Wear a
  mask. If after 5 days, you don't have a fever and your symptoms are better, you can
  return to your normal activities while being careful to wear a well-fitting mask.

If you would like to order the free COVID tests, starting tomorrow January, 19<sup>th</sup>, you can go to: <a href="https://www.covidtests.gov/">https://www.covidtests.gov/</a> to order your at-home testing supplies.

Public Health is currently experiencing very high case load.



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With the new CDC guidelines and increasing number of COVID-19 cases related to the Omicron variant, the Investigation team at Coos Health & Wellness will no longer have the capacity to contact trace newly reported cases not related to congregate care or K-12 settings. We ask that if you receive a positive test result from a testing site, or at home test that you contact those individuals you have been around in the 48 hours before symptom onset. Also, the Oregon Health Authority has launched their web portal for those testing positive or wanting additional information. You can go to oregon.gov/positivecovidtest and get information there.

For general question regarding COVID you can still call 541-266-6700 option 5 for COVID related questions, or visit: <a href="https://cooshealthandwellness.org/public-health/covid-19-vaccine-information/#1631298723822-8bcde868-b5da">https://cooshealthandwellness.org/public-health/covid-19-vaccine-information/#1631298723822-8bcde868-b5da</a> for all the most up-to-date guidance.

To find additional information related to finding vaccines please go to the Coos Health & Wellness website. <a href="https://cooshealthandwellness.org/public-health/covid-19-vaccine-information/">https://cooshealthandwellness.org/public-health/covid-19-vaccine-information/</a>

Dr. Eric Gleason MS

Deputy Director

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Coos Health & Wellness

Together, inspiring healthier communities
281 LaClair St. Coos Bay, OR 97420

p. 541-266-6741 Coos County is an Affirmative Action/EEO TTY Relay: 7-1-1