

BILH COVID-19 Retesting for Patients Previously Diagnosed with COVID-19

Patient Type	<u>≤ 90 days¹</u> after Original Positive COVID-19 Viral Test ²	<u>> 90 days¹</u> after Original Positive COVID-19 Viral Test ²
Currently asymptomatic patient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-testing for COVID-19 is not recommended within 90 days of the original positive test for patients who have recovered and are asymptomatic (Prior COVID-19 status). This includes the recommendation not to test pre-procedurally or upon readmission within 90 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-testing for COVID-19 is recommended > 90 days after the original positive test for patients who have recovered and are asymptomatic. This includes all settings in which initial testing would be recommended (e.g., admission, pre-procedure). If positive test result, isolation precautions for COVID-19 are required in the healthcare and home settings.
Patients who develop new symptoms after a previous positive COVID-19 viral test²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New infection with COVID-19 is less likely and alternative diagnoses should be considered. Testing for COVID-19 may be warranted in light of new circulating variants that may evade immunity from prior infection or vaccination. While evaluation is in progress, isolation precautions should be used in the healthcare setting based on suspected disease processes (e.g., COVID-19, TB, norovirus, <i>C. difficile</i>). If the patient's diagnosis is not clear, consider Infectious Diseases consult and maintain COVID-19 Suspect status during the evaluation. If COVID-19 rebound is suspected (with or without antiviral treatment), no retesting is necessary and the patient should be placed back on COVID-19 Positive status and the period of isolation restarted from the date of symptom rebound. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New infection is possible and repeat PCR testing is recommended. Isolation precautions for COVID-19 are required during evaluation (COVID-19 Suspect status) and with a positive test result (COVID-19 Positive status) in the healthcare and home settings.

¹The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continues to use 90 days as the reinfection window for COVID-19

²COVID-19 Viral Test may be a COVID-19 PCR or a [COVID-19 home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria](#)