

COVID-19 Update for Occupational Medicine Client Employers

Updated: 05/01/2020 - Replaces: 04/19/2020

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, we want to share the following with client employers:

Employees Should Not Bring Others to OccMed Visits. To minimize the risk of infection, your employees & candidates should not bring family members or others into the clinic with them.

Increased Patient Screening Protocols. Patient temperatures are now being taken at all MultiCare locations, including Occupational Medicine. Staff and providers are wearing masks and perhaps other PPE. In locations where our clinic is in a medical office building or otherwise co-located with another MultiCare clinic, it is possible your employees may be screened more than once. We acknowledge these steps may seem redundant if experienced by one of your workers. MultiCare is doing our best to slow the spread of infection.

UPDATE: Virtual Care Workers Compensation Visits Now Available. Virtual care *is now available for both initial and follow-up appointments*. See the patient instruction sheet. We encourage employees without COVID-19 symptoms to keep their injury care appointments to maintain progress in their care and claim.

UPDATE: Return to Work Evaluations Now Available. MultiCare Urgent Care Centers (Indigo, MultiCare and Immediate Clinic brands) now evaluate persons for return to work who were under isolation recovering from COVID-19 *using CDC non-test-based strategy*, and issue documentation for those meeting the criteria.

Testing is not currently available for return-to-work evaluation.

UPDATE: Audio Booth Testing Is Resumed. Clinic check-in screening, and broader availability of PPE has allowed us to resume audio booth testing. Please note patients will be required to wear a mask and gloves to prevent the spread of infection. All hard surfaces inside the booth will be sanitized between tests.

UPDATE: Evidential Breath Testing (aka BAT-Breath Alcohol Testing) Resumed. Clinic check-in screening, and broader availability of PPE has allowed us to breath alcohol tests. Collectors will be wearing complete PPE. ***Random tests are now available.***

UPDATE: Respirator Fit Testing Now Available at some Puget Sound locations. Check with the clinic or Account Services for availability. Fit testing remains available at all Inland Northwest (Spokane County) clinics.

We still provide urine drug testing. See the link below to DOT guidance on drug & alcohol testing.

Individuals with Symptoms of Concern can be Evaluated as Follows:

MultiCare Coronavirus Online Assessment Tool. This free tool is available to assist individuals in determining if they should obtain a MultiCare Virtual Care or Urgent Care visit. The tool is available on all MultiCare web links below.



MultiCare Virtual Care. We recommend using virtual care before going to a clinic in person. Individuals who meet testing criteria will be referred to a centralized call center to arrange testing at an urgent care center convenient for them. <https://www.multicare.org/virtualcare/>

MultiCare Indigo Urgent Care. Patients who cannot utilize Virtual Care and present at a MultiCare Indigo urgent care with symptoms will be evaluated for COVID-19. Those meeting the criteria will be tested at the clinic.

<https://www.indigourgentcare.com/>. Test results may take 2 to 7 days.



Temporary Clinic Closures. Impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak may include temporarily closing some clinics. We will do our best to keep employers advised if their home clinic is affected.

FMCSA Emergency CDL Extension. For CDL holders whose medical card expires between March 1 & June 30, 2020, their card is valid through June 30, 2020. Link below. We continue providing DOT recertification exams during this period.

Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT–aka spirometry) Suspended Temporarily. PFT is a common diagnostic tool used in examinations where medical clearance to wear a respirator is required: firefighting, industrial medical surveillance, etc. The test requires vigorous exhalation into the spirometer by the patient, risking droplets released into the air, possibly infecting others. Suitable personal protective equipment cannot be diverted from essential medical care at this time.

Links to Additional Information: Below are links to COVID-19 information sites you may find useful.

MultiCare Health System	https://www.multicare.org/coronavirus/
MultiCare Virtual Care	https://www.multicare.org/virtualcare/
MultiCare Urgent Care	https://www.multicare.org/urgent-care/ or https://www.indigourgentcare.com/ .
CDC COVID-19 Site	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html
CDC COVID-19 Guidance for Employers	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html
CDC COVID-19 Discontinuing Isolation – Non-HealthCare/First Responder	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html
CDC COVID-19 Return to Work – HealthCare/First Responder	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html
Washington State Dept of Labor & Industries COVID-19 Resources	https://www.lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/novel-coronavirus-outbreak-covid-19-resources
Washington State Dept of Health Workplace & Employer Recommendations	https://www.doh.wa.gov/Coronavirus/Workplace
DOT FMCSA Emergency CDL Waivers	https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/emergency/fmcsa-cdl-waiver-32420
DOT Guidance on Compliance with DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulations (during COVID-19)	https://www.transportation.gov/odapc/compliance-with-dot-drug-and-alcohol-testing-regulations

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this extraordinary time. Please contact us if you have further questions or concerns.

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