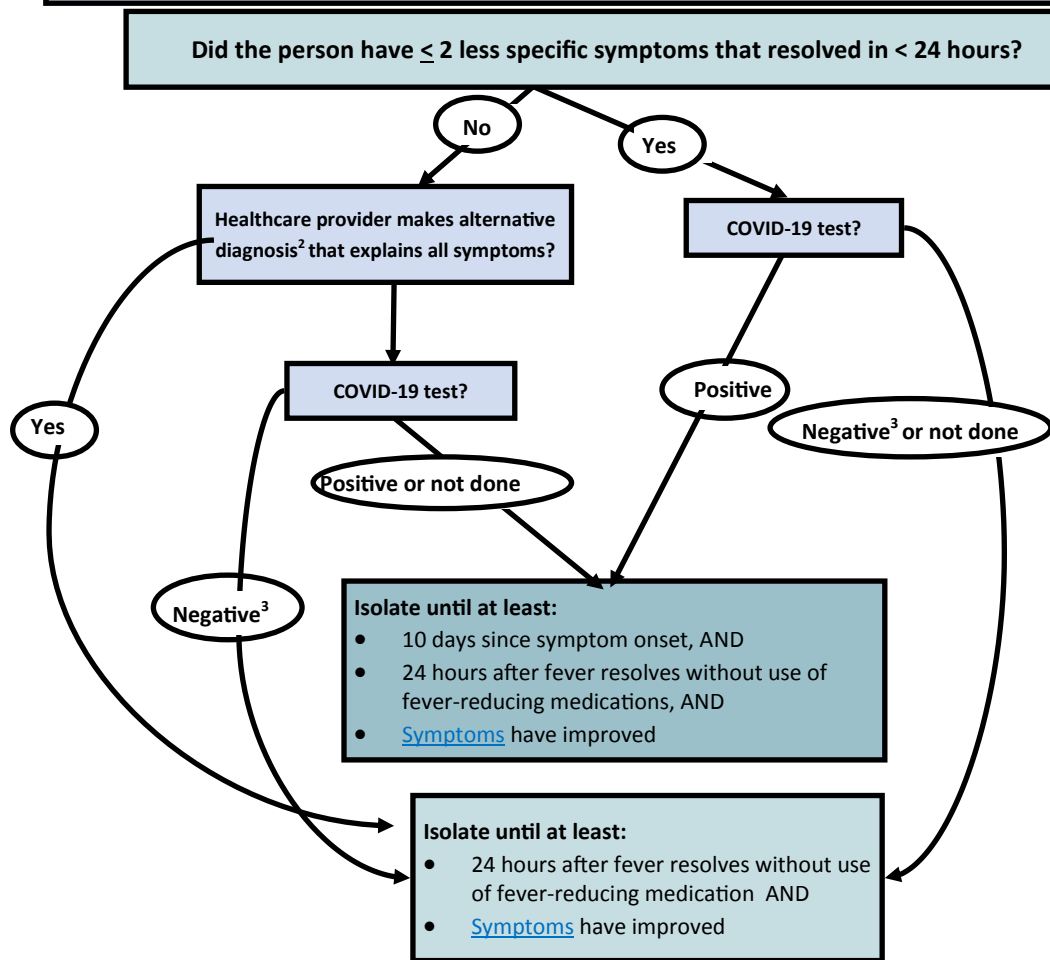


Return to School/Work Guidance Following a Positive Symptom Screen for COVID-19 and No Exposure v17

- Person with 1 or more new symptom of COVID-19
- No COVID-19 exposure in prior 14 days
- COVID-19 rate in the community is MODERATE-HIGH¹ (≥ 25 cases/100,000 population over 14 days)



This allows people with colds but no fever or cough or very short term mild illness (headache and fatigue, single episode of vomiting or short term diarrhea) to return to school/work 24 hours after symptoms have improved.

Symptoms consistent with COVID-19

More Specific Symptoms

- Fever (defined as subjective or $T100.4^{\circ}F$)
- Cough
- Loss of sense of taste and/or smell
- Shortness of breath

Less Specific Symptoms

- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea (defined as 3 or more loose stool in 24 hour period)

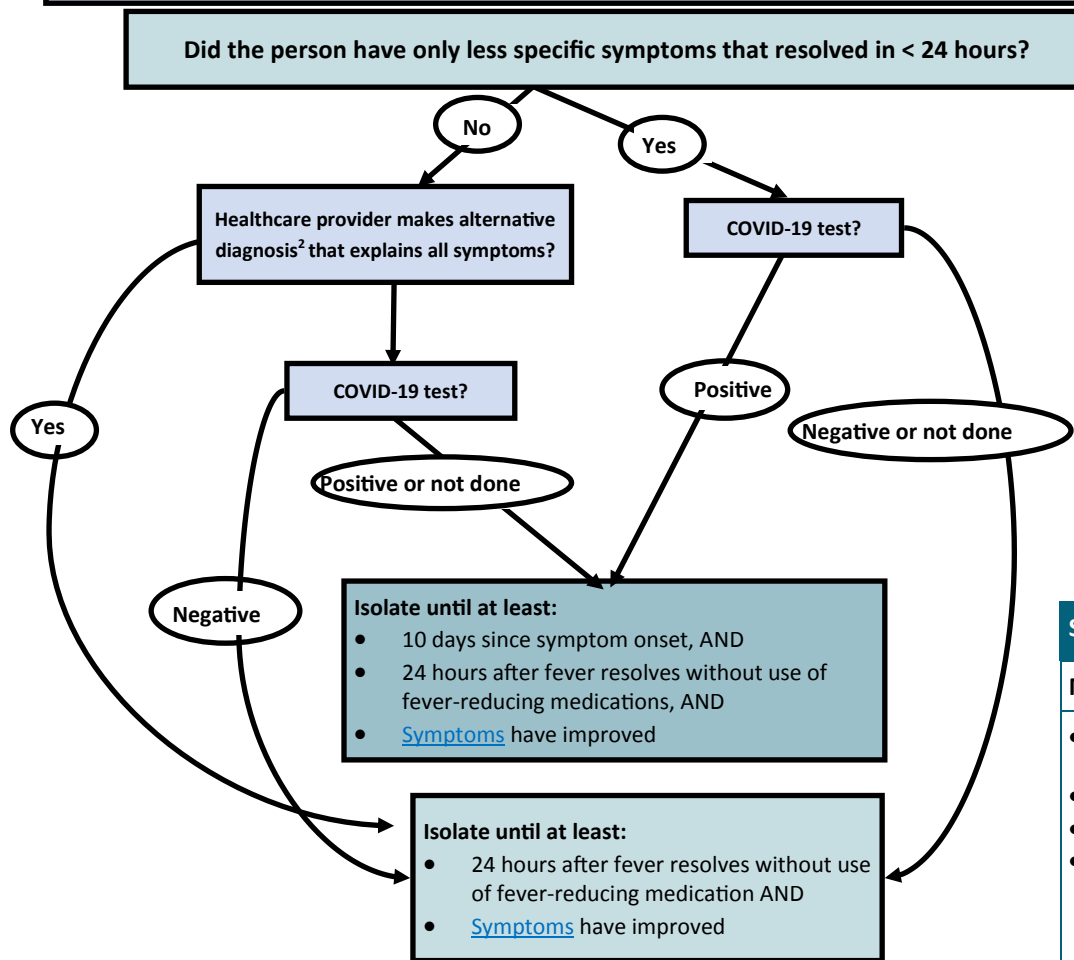
¹For community COVID-19 rate, see [State of Washington COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard](#)

²Examples of alternative diagnosis made by healthcare provider include childhood rash illness, acute otitis media, or a lab confirmed diagnosis such as strep throat or other viral pathogen. If testing for other viral pathogens, strongly recommend testing for COVID-19 as well.

³In symptomatic persons and when community transmission is moderate-high, a negative rapid test should be confirmed with a PCR test performed in a clinical laboratory. See [Interim Guidance for Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2](#) and [Considerations for Interpreting Antigen Test Results in Nursing Homes](#).

Return to School/Work Guidance Following a Positive Symptom Screen for COVID-19 and No Exposure v17

- Person with 1 or more new symptom of COVID-19
- No COVID-19 exposure in prior 14 days
- COVID-19 rate in the community is LOW¹ (< 25 cases/100,000 population over 14 days)



Symptoms consistent with COVID-19

More Specific Symptoms

- Fever (defined as subjective or T100.4°F)
- Cough
- Loss of sense of taste and/or smell
- Shortness of breath

Less Specific Symptoms

- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea (defined as 3 or more loose stool in 24 hour period)

¹For community COVID-19 rate, see [State of Washington COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard](#)

²Examples of alternative diagnosis made by healthcare provider include childhood rash illness, acute otitis media, or a lab confirmed diagnosis such as strep throat or other viral pathogen. If testing for other viral pathogens, strongly recommend testing for COVID-19 as well.