

JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS
Health & Environment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Johnson County Department of Health and Environment expands appointment-based COVID-19 testing to older children and adds evening appointments

JOHNSON COUNTY, KAN. (June 26, 2020) – Starting on June 29, Johnson County, Kansas children age 12 and older can get a free COVID-19 test at the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment’s (JCDHE) drive-thru appointment-based testing in Olathe. Children under the age of 16 (12-15 years) must have a parent present in the vehicle to give verbal consent for testing.

The department is also expanding its appointment-based testing to anyone who lives or works in Johnson County, Kansas with or without symptoms. Previously, testing was only for symptomatic individuals who resided in the county.

Appointment-based testing is available Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and every other Tuesday from 4-7 p.m. starting June 30. The drive-thru testing clinic is located at 11875 S. Sunset Drive.

“We are pleased to provide additional testing times to those who live and work in Johnson County and expand our testing to include older children,” says Dr. Sanmi Areola, JCDHE director. “By making it easier to get tested, we hope to generate more data about the spread of COVID-19 in our community which will help us make decisions about our mitigation efforts.”

Individuals should seek testing from their primary health care provider first before making an appointment at JCDHE. Appointments can be scheduled in English or Spanish at www.jocogov.org/coronavirus.

Symptoms of COVID-19 typically appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and include:

(more)

fever, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

Areola says this test tells you if you are infected with coronavirus on the day of the test. If the test comes back negative, you could still become infected the next day which is why everyone needs to continue to wear a mask, avoid large crowds, wash hands frequently and stay 6 feet or more from other people.

For questions about the testing process or COVID-19, call 913-715-2819, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or visit www.jocogov.org/coronavirus.

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