



COVID-19 Symptom List for Screening and Testing Purposes

September 24, 2020

This document was developed by the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH) for local use. It will be posted at www.sfdcp.org/screen. It may change as new knowledge emerges and as the COVID-19 epidemic in San Francisco changes.

Summary of Changes since the 9/19/2020 Version

- A specific symptom list for children and youth under 18 have been added.

AUDIENCE:

1. Workplaces, schools, programs for children and youth, and other groups that screen personnel or non-personnel (including visitors, customers, patrons, clients, students etc.) for COVID-19 symptoms before allowing people into their facility
2. Health care organizations that are required by San Francisco to offer COVID-19 testing to patients with symptoms.

PURPOSE: To define which symptoms must be used to screen for COVID-19 and the symptoms for which testing must be offered. The lists do not include all possible symptoms of COVID-19. Screening forms for personnel and non-personnel can be found at: www.sfdcp.org/screen

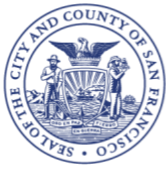
Symptom Lists

Adults

SFPDH mirrors the CDC list of symptoms posted as of 9/24/2020:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

- Fever (100.4°F/38.0°C or greater), chills, repeated shaking/shivering
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Feeling unusually weak or fatigued
- Loss of taste or smell
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Runny or congested nose
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting



Children and Youth Under 18 Years Old

- Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher) or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Not being able to taste or smell, or saying that things taste or smell different (within the last 10 days)
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

San Francisco uses a shorter list of symptoms for children and youth under 18 years old. This is because some symptoms are much less common in children with COVID-19 than adults with COVID-19. Other symptoms are so common in children that they are not helpful in deciding whether a child may have COVID-19.

San Francisco does not require the following symptoms when screening children and youth under 18, and testing for these symptoms is at the clinician's discretion: stuffy or runny nose; body aches (muscle aches or "bones hurting"); and being unusually tired, lethargic or "low-energy."

Resources

San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH)

- Screening for COVID-19
<https://sfcdcp.org/screen>
- COVID-19 Guidance for Schools, Childcares, and Programs for Children and Youth:
<https://sfcdcp.org/CovidSchoolsChildcare>

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- "COVID-19 Update Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers," 7/17/2020
<https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-childcare--en.pdf>
- "COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School-Based Programs," 8/4/2020
<https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-schools.pdf>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Symptoms of Coronavirus
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>