



PERSPECTIVES  
CORPORATION



# COVID FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | Updated 9/12/23

<a href="#">Who should get a COVID-19 Test?</a> . . . . .	p.1
<a href="#">How do I get fully vaccinated for COVID-19?</a> . . . . .	p.1
<a href="#">When do I need to quarantine/isolate and how does this affect me?</a> . . . . .	p.2
<a href="#">Are Perspectives employees required to wear a mask during direct care?</a> . . . . .	p.3
<a href="#">When should I not go to work?</a> . . . . .	p.3
<a href="#">What's the plan if/when an individual or employee tests COVID positive?</a> . . . . .	p.4

1130 Ten Rod Road | Building B, Suite 101  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
(401) 294-3990

[www.perspectivescorporation.com](http://www.perspectivescorporation.com)

## #1 | Who should get a COVID-19 Test?

You should get tested for COVID-19 if:

- You have [symptoms of COVID-19](#). Even if your symptoms are mild and you're up to date with your COVID-19 vaccinations, you should isolate at home and get tested.
- You've been identified as a close contact of someone who tested positive. Get tested 5 days after the last time you were with that person, even if you don't have symptoms.

[Learn more about what to do if you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19.](#)

If you don't have symptoms and haven't recently been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, you don't need to get tested for COVID-19.

- Learn how to get a COVID-19 test at [www.covid.ri.gov/testing](http://www.covid.ri.gov/testing)
- Report a positive self-test result at [www.portal.ri.gov/s/selftest](http://www.portal.ri.gov/s/selftest)

The Perspectives Nursing Department will have limited ability to administer rapid tests while supplies last for those who are symptomatic.

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## #2 | How do I get fully vaccinated for COVID-19?

All Perspectives employees are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Perspectives strongly encourage all employees to be fully vaccinated with primary and booster doses. Vaccination protects the vast majority of recipients from severe infection and transmission of the coronavirus.

**For the best protection against COVID-19, stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines.**

This means getting all recommended doses including booster doses when you are eligible.

- All people ages 6 months and older are eligible for vaccination.
- Everyone age 5 or older is eligible for a booster dose.

[Learn more about COVID-19 vaccination.](#)



### #3 | When do I need to quarantine/isolate and how does this affect me?

If you test positive for COVID-19, you should follow these steps:

1. **Day 0 is the first day** of a positive viral test.
2. **Stay home (isolate) for at least 5 full days.** Someone with COVID-19 should isolate even if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19. Only leave isolation for medical emergencies.
3. You can end isolation **after you have stayed home for 5 days and after these 2 things** have happened:
  - You have no symptoms, or your symptoms have improved ***and***
  - You are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. If you have a fever, continue to isolate at home until your fever resolves.

**Employees:** You may return to work wearing a tight-fitting mask (N95, KN95) day 6-10 at work.

**PWS:** You may access the community wearing a tight-fitting mask (N95, KN95) day 6-10.

If you cannot wear a tight-fitting mask then you must isolate for the full 10 days.

**All Employees & PWS in Contact With COVID-19 Positive Person:**

- Do not need to quarantine
- Are encouraged to wear a mask

If symptoms develop at any time, stay home and get a Rapid/PCR test.



## #4 | Are Perspectives employees required to wear a mask during direct care?

As of 2/27/23, Perspectives will no longer require masks to be worn by employees or visitors who are not symptomatic or working in a positive location.

### Reminder for those choosing to wear a mask:

- **Disposable masks:** Should be used for one shift only and then disposed.
- **Fabric masks:** It is recommended these are washed daily.

### Reusing N95/KN95 face masks:

Masks intended for reuse should be stored between uses in a clearly marked paper bag, this should be kept with the employee - not left at place of employment. One mask should never be shared between employees or PWS. An N95/KN95 face mask can be reused as long as it fits closely to the face.

CDC guidelines suggest reusing a mask no more than 5 times. Regardless of that, an N95/KN95 mask should be discarded immediately if it becomes soiled with bodily fluids.

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## #5 | When should I not go to work?

All employees who have symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild, and regardless of vaccination status should:

- Notify supervisor
- Not go to work
- Get a Rapid/PCR test - need a negative test to return to work
- If an acute illness that is not COVID, you must wear a mask until symptoms have resolved.



## **#6 | What's the plan if/when an individual or employee is COVID positive?**

The Perspectives nursing department continues to be in frequent contact with the Rhode Island Department of Health and Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) in regards to emergency planning in the event that we have an individual or employee diagnosed with COVID-19.

For employees working in a positive environment, full PPE is required Day 0-5 for the PWS isolation period, employees must wear a tight-fitting mask (N95, KN95) day 6-10.

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## **Questions?**

**Melissa Augaitis, RN MSN-Ed**

Senior Director of Nursing

[maugaitis@perspectivescorporation.com](mailto:maugaitis@perspectivescorporation.com)