Community Screening for COVID-19: Proposal to Return & Recovery Task Force

Peter Katona, MD, Chair, Infection Control Working Group
John Bollard, Chair, Symptom Monitoring & Testing Working Group

The following principles were used to guide the proposed testing plan:

1. The test must be scientifically sound, with a high disease specificity and sensitivity as well as high predictive values of a positive or negative test.
2. The turnaround time for test results should be less than 48 hours.
3. The plan must be implementable and flexible enough to pivot based on disease prevalence and campus or community positivity and Rt rates.
4. The campus Exposure Management (contact tracing) team is in place.
5. Certain groups pose a higher risk than others and should be tested accordingly.
6. Excludes Health System employees.

Group 1--Mandatory

It is recommended that the following groups test weekly (every 5-9 days), and that all increase to twice weekly should the positivity rate of any one group reach 2% (all numbers are estimates):

- Students living in UCLA residence halls (700)
- Students living in university-owned undergraduate apartments (900)
- *Students living in fraternity and sorority houses (400)
- Residence Hall and Housing staff (professional and student) who have regular interaction with students (750)
- Faculty-in-Residence (65)
- Faculty, TAs and students involved with in-person courses (750)
- K-12 faculty and staff who are onsite (100)
- K-12 students over the age of 5 (1000)
- Essential staff (those working full or part-time on the Westwood campus) (3000)
- Students involved in the research ramp-up (2700)

*Cannot be mandated, but is highly recommended

Group 2--Mandatory

It is recommended that the following groups are randomly tested daily so that individuals are tested every two weeks (every 12-16 days), and increase to every week or greater should either the campus or their cohort’s positivity rate reach 2%.

- Faculty involved in the research ramp-up (4,200)
- Graduate students living in University apartments who do not fall in at least one of the groups mentioned above (3,500)
Group 3--Recommended

It is recommended that the following groups test regularly, and that resources are focused on encouraging and supporting testing for them:

- Graduate and undergraduate students living in the vicinity of campus and not part of any cohort listed above are encouraged to undertake asymptomatic weekly testing (~10,000)
- UCLA faculty, staff and students working in remote University locations without easy access to the Westwood campus testing sites are encouraged to undertake asymptomatic testing every two weeks, unless living and working in cohort or region in tier 3 or 4 when such testing is less beneficial.

Notes:

1. The Athletic Department is conducting regular surveillance antigen testing—in close collaboration with Ashe clinical leadership—based on a schedule determined both by campus physicians and Pac-12 league guidelines. Regular reports will be provided to the Symptom Monitoring & Testing Working Group and elevated to the Task Force as appropriate.
2. The family members of students living in university-owned housing should be encouraged to test regularly, using community resources. Should outbreaks occur, or the positivity rate of these housing communities climb to 2% or above, these family members will be included in campus testing efforts on a voluntary basis.