November 2020

COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Guidelines

What is The Kroger Co. approach to COVID-19?

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the **safety** of our associates and customers has remained our **top priority**. During the past months, we have continued to learn and adapt our strategies to help create a **safe environment** for all who enter our facilities.

This guidance will serve to address the rising case numbers in New Mexico by implementing surveillance testing in all New Mexico locations.

Surveillance Testing Approach

All associates will be tested:

- Every 2 weeks, and
  - All associates at each store will be divided into Group A and Group B
    - In week 1, all Group A associates will be tested over a 2-day period
    - In week 2, all Group B associates will be tested over a 2-day period
  - Associates in Albuquerque will be tested at one of 2 drive-thru testing locations
  - Associates in outlying stores will be tested using virtual observation method

Testing will be provided:

- In Albuquerque, drive-thru or walk-up testing will be provided at 2 locations. Samples will be collected via self-collected nasal swabs. Each self-collection will be observed/guided by a licensed provider.
- In rural areas, store management will designate a private place for associate testing. Samples will be collected via self-collected nasal swabs. Each self-collection will be observed/guided by a licensed provider via a telehealth visit, with a trained staff member present in the store to oversee sample collection and shipping to the lab.

Our Test and Laboratory

Our Test

- Gravity Diagnostics has received an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the FDA to process these high-complexity tests EITHER when self-collected under the supervision of a healthcare professional OR after samples are collected at home using a home collection kit that has an EUA.
- The Gravity Diagnostics COVID-19 Assay is a molecular diagnostic test – a test which detects parts of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and can be used to diagnose active infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
  - Technically, it is a real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test which is emergency use authorized by the FDA.
  - Samples are collected with nasal swabs and placed in vials containing saline (home collection kit) or a transport medium (for on-site testing). A mid-turbinate sample is collected, which involves inserting a swab mid-way into the nose (approximately 1 inch), rotating the swab and holding it in place for 15 seconds. The same swab is used to collect sample from both nostrils before placing in the vial and packaging for shipment. These tests have been validated for analysis at Gravity Diagnostics.

Turnaround Time

- Gravity Diagnostics generally processes samples within 24-48 hours of receipt at the lab.

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Results & Contact Tracing

- Upon confirming a COVID-19 case, the associate will be required to quarantine.
- Safety measures and contract tracing protocols will be immediately implemented.

Scheduling

Group A

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
IN-STORE: 409, 461, 491 ABQ1: 413, 446, 448, 485 ABQ2: 439, 494, 498, 571	IN-STORE: 409, 424, 461, 491 ABQ1: 413, 446, 448, 485 ABQ2: 439, 494, 498, 571	IN-STORE: 414, 424, 432, 467 ABQ1: 423, 459, 463 ABQ2: 427, 443, 450, 496	IN-STORE: 414, 426, 432, 467 ABQ1: 423, 459, 463 ABQ2: 427, 443, 450, 496	IN-STORE: 415, 426

Group B

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
IN-STORE: 409, 461, 491 ABQ1: 413, 446, 448, 485 ABQ2: 439, 494, 498, 571	IN-STORE: 409, 424, 461, 491 ABQ1: 413, 446, 448, 485 ABQ2: 439, 494, 498, 571	IN-STORE: 414, 424, 432, 467 ABQ1: 423, 459, 463 ABQ2: 427, 443, 450, 496	IN-STORE: 414, 426, 432, 467 ABQ1: 423, 459, 463 ABQ2: 427, 443, 450, 496	IN-STORE: 415, 426