



## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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PUBLIC HEALTH

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For general information on COVID-19 visit our local page

<https://hhs.co.yamhill.or.us/publichealth/page/covid-19-coronavirus-information> or

<https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

If you are having a medical emergency, call 911.

Yamhill County has experienced a high number of COVID-19 cases over the last few weeks. This aligns with trends we are seeing across Oregon due to the highly contagious Omicron variant. Beginning Wednesday January 12th, Yamhill County Public Health (YCPH) will no longer perform contact tracing and case investigation for positive cases. “Getting a call from Public Health is not going to slow down the spread of Omicron, it just spreads too fast. Instead, we need people to stay home if they have symptoms and let people they have been around know”. Lindsey Manfrin, HHS Director. Public Health efforts and resources will be focused on where they can make the most positive impact on our community. These focus areas will be vaccine administration, testing access, and support for individuals who need access to things such as food delivery during isolation or quarantine to the extent possible.

OHA will soon adopt an “opt-in” approach to case investigation by launching an online case investigation survey and staffing a COVID-19 Case Support Hotline. These will focus on ensuring people who test positive for COVID-19 or who are exposed to COVID-19 can quickly access health education, assistance and resources to safely isolate and quarantine. Both resources will be launched on Wednesday January 12<sup>th</sup>.

Individuals that test positive for COVID-19 should isolate at home for 5 days away from household members that do not have COVID-19. For the most up to date guidance for isolation and quarantine, visit our webpage here:

<https://hhs.co.yamhill.or.us/publichealth/page/covid-19-coronavirus-information>

Testing availability has become extremely limited locally and across the state. Because of this, we ask individuals who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and have a known exposure but are unable to get tested to assume they are positive and follow the above suggested actions. Additionally, we recommend that employers identify a plan on how they will manage staff who are symptomatic but unable to access testing to return to work. Oregon Health Authority has

allocated approximately 15,000 antigen tests to Yamhill County. YCPH is working with our community partners to develop a distribution plan that will focus on prioritizing populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and have not historically had access to COVID-19 testing and individuals who have a known exposure or have COVID-19 like symptoms. Additional community-based organizations within the county will receive an allocation of testing materials, although the organizations and quantity is unknown at this time.

Vaccines are still our best defense against COVID-19, especially against severe disease and hospitalizations. Anyone age 5 or above should consider getting vaccinated. If you have questions about vaccines please ask a trusted healthcare provider. Event dates, times and locations can be found on our Yamhill County COVID-19 vaccine website. Our website can be found [here](#).

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