

Ambulatory Negative Covid Test Algorithm—Symptomatic Patient

Estimates of the sensitivity of covid 19 PCR testing vary widely but may be in the 70-90% range in ambulatory patients. Sensitivity highest within 3-5d after symptoms onset due to high viral loads.

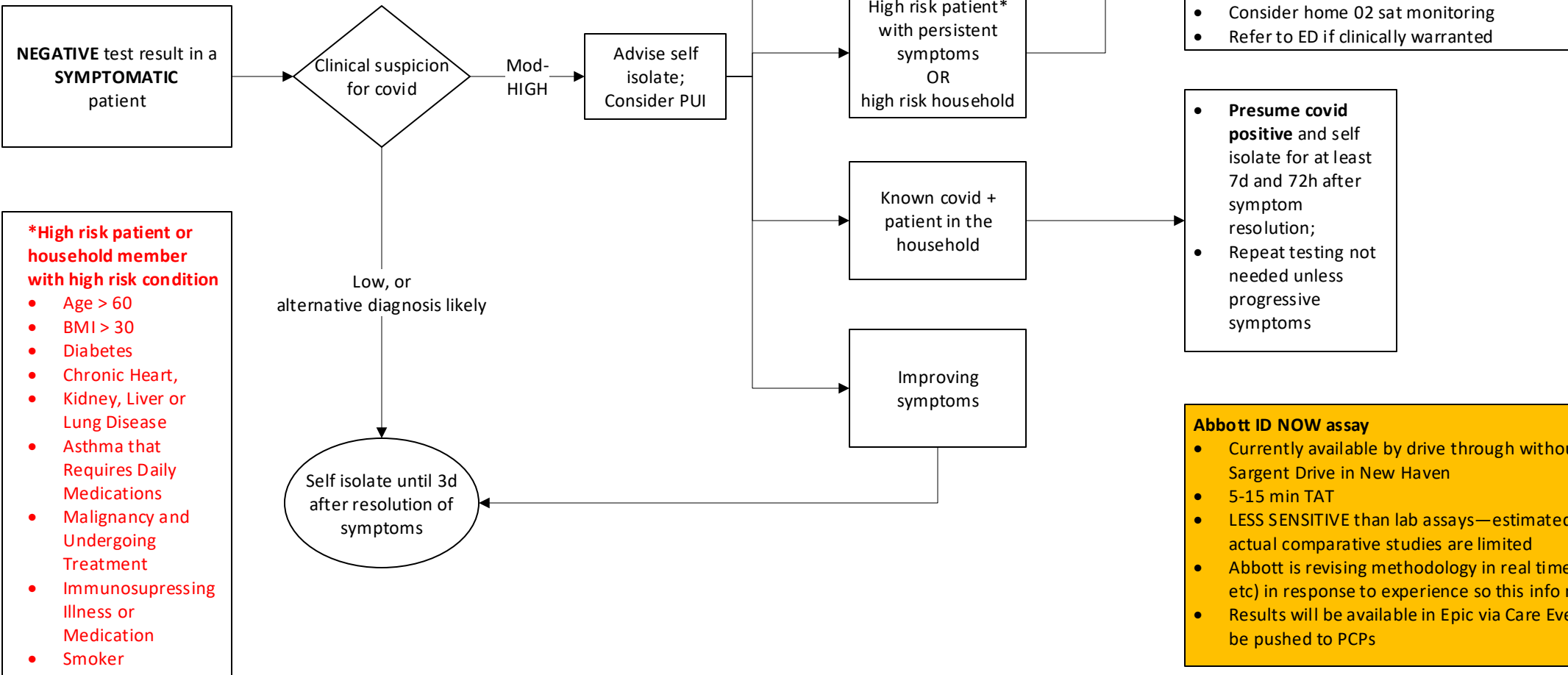
Factors that may increase false negatives:

Assay used:

- Lab-based PCR (e.g. YNHH, Mayo, Quest) estimated at 85-90% sensitive
- POC tests (e.g. Abbott ID now and others) predicted to be 10% lower—see orange box

Other factors:

- Poor sample quality or sampling technique
- Advanced disease stage—viral loads are highest EARLY in disease
- Variable viral shedding, including patient-specific factors
- Disease severity



- *High risk patient or household member with high risk condition**
- Age > 60
 - BMI > 30
 - Diabetes
 - Chronic Heart, Kidney, Liver or Lung Disease
 - Asthma that Requires Daily Medications
 - Malignancy and Undergoing Treatment
 - Immunosuppressing Illness or Medication
 - Smoker

Abbott ID NOW assay

- Currently available by drive through without clinician order at Sargent Drive in New Haven
- 5-15 min TAT
- LESS SENSITIVE than lab assays—estimated at 10% less but so far actual comparative studies are limited
- Abbott is revising methodology in real time (swab type, dilution, etc) in response to experience so this info may change
- Results will be available in Epic via Care Everywhere but may not be pushed to PCPs