



RSV Testing Guidance for Schools and Daycares

Yellowstone County is seeing high rates of RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus). While there are few clinical and epidemiological reasons to test children for RSV, many of the tests used for COVID-19 also test for RSV and influenza.

Clinically indicated testing for COVID-19 may be appropriate for children who are symptomatic, as there are isolation measures specific to COVID-19.

It is recommended that Schools and Daycares **do not specifically ask** for RSV testing. While RSV may have a slightly different clinical picture than other common respiratory viruses, there are no differences in treatment and/or isolation measures resulting from RSV testing.

Children who test negative for COVID-19 do not require additional testing (including for RSV) in order to return to school or daycare, per routine respiratory illness protocols.

