Q: WHAT IS THIS EFFORT? WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

A: The goal of surveillance testing is to test people without symptoms for COVID-19 to determine if additional public health actions are needed. Participation in surveillance testing will help leaders at the local installation identify work areas where COVID-19 may be present and take protective actions. The resulting test information can be helpful for individuals, work areas and, by extension, the installation.

The first phase of testing at AFMC installations begins within select active-duty populations at the following locations: Edwards AFB, Calif., Eglin AFB, Fla., Hanscom AFB, Mass., and Hill AFB, Utah. Active-duty members selected for test participation will be picked at random.

The testing will be conducted in 14-day periods, eventually testing 100 total active-duty personnel at each location within the first two months of testing. The active-duty populations selected for testing include the following:

- **Period 1:** Healthcare workers
- **Period 2:** Dorm residents
- **Period 3**: Host wing personnel
- **Period 4:** Installation workforce

As testing efforts are fine-tuned and streamlined, testing will include other base populations. At this point in time, testing will begin only within these active-duty populations.

Q: HOW WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF SELECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TEST EFFORT?

A: Participants will be notified of selection for surveillance testing via an email message from the local Military Treatment Facility (MTF) personnel. This email message will include the following:

- An attached Consent Form, required if participating;
- A specified location, date, and time for the testing; and,
- A specified local point of contact to aid in answering any further questions.

Participation in this testing effort is voluntary, and you may decline to take part.

Q: WHO IS BEING CONTACTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TESTING?

A: Initially, testing at the four AFMC installations listed above will begin with randomly picked active-duty members within select base populations. Those populations include healthcare workers, dorm residents, host wing personnel and the installation workforce.

The testing will be conducted as follows, with testing increasing with each 14-day period:

- **Period 1:** Healthcare workers (HCWs)
  - Select 10 active-duty healthcare workers in 4-6 person pools
  - Test 10 total members (HCWs)

- - **Period 2:** Dorm Residents
    - – Add 10 active-duty dorm residents in 4-6 person pools in 1-2 units
    - – Test 20 total members (HCWs + Dorm Residents)
  - **Period 3:** Host Wing Personnel
    - – Add 10 active-duty members from host wing in 4-6 person pools
    - – Test 30 total members (HCWs + Dorm Residents + Host Wing Personnel)
  - **Period 4:** Installation Workforce
    - – Add 10 active-duty from the installation-wide force in 4-6 person pools
    - – Test 40 total members (HCWs + Dorm Residents + Host Wing Personnel + Installation Workforce)

As testing efforts are fine-tuned and streamlined, testing will expand among other base populations.

Q: IS PARTICIPATION IN SURVEILLANCE TESTING MANDATORY?

A: Participation in this testing effort is voluntary, and you may decline to take part.

Q: HOW DO I DECLINE PARTICIPATION?

A: A non-response to the selection email message you receive will constitute your declining to take part in this surveillance testing effort. Additionally, you can reply back to the selection email stating that you decline participation.

Q: I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TESTING EFFORT. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

A: Complete the Consent Form attached to the testing selection email previously received. With the form completed, report to the specified location on the date and time outlined in the notification email. Members of the medical team will help in completion of the test.

Q: I RECENTLY TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19. SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN THIS TESTING EFFORT?

A: No. If you have had a confirmed positive COVID-19 test within the last 90 days, please do not participate.

Q: HOW WILL THE SURVEILLANCE TEST ITSELF BE ADMINISTERED?

A: The test uses oral fluids (saliva) collected from an individual's mouth with a cotton swab under the supervision of the medical team. Samples from four to six individuals will be grouped together and an identifier assigned to the grouped sample. This is called aggregated testing. The aggregated sample will be tested for the presence of the COVID-19 virus.

Public Health will internally track which individuals were part of that sample. This is a surveillance test for the presence of COVID-19 in populations of people and not a clinical test for the presence of COVID-19 in individuals. Due to the rules for using this test to identify COVID-19 activity in populations of people without symptoms, tests will not be ordered through the medical system and results will not be placed in health records.

The test is called the Curative SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) Assay and processed by KorvaLabs Inc., as part of a central contract with the Department of the Air Force to conduct COVID-19 testing. More information about the test can be found at https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/vitro-diagnostics-euas

Q: HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH TO RECEIVE THE POOLED TEST RESULT?

A: Thirty-six to 48 hours on average, although this can vary due to a variety of factors.

Q: HOW ARE TEST RESULTS REPORTED?

A: KorvaLabs will send aggregated sample test results to the MTF. Public Health will review the results. No results will be entered into your medical record because this test and method is not approved for determining whether or not a person without symptoms has the COVID-19 virus. When used for testing people with no symptoms, we can only use it to test an aggregated sample for the possible presence of the COVID-19 virus.

If the aggregated sample test is negative, individuals in that aggregated sample will NOT be notified and no result will be entered into your record. Do not contact the MTF to ask about aggregated testing results because they cannot provide that to you.

If there is a positive result in your aggregated testing group, your unit leadership will be notified and they will notify you to seek additional medical evaluation within the next duty day. Until the medical evaluation is accomplished, you should follow strict public health measures (maintain six feet of distance from others, wear a cloth face mask, frequently wash hands, and avoid large gatherings). It is recommended that if you are unable to get medically evaluated (if part of the positive aggregate group) that you self-isolate for 10 days from the date your test was collected, assuming you remain asymptomatic. If any are mission essential, follow the DoD Force Health Protection Guidance Supplement 8.

Whether or not you are notified that you should get further evaluation, all personnel should continue practicing public health precautions as directed by your base leadership, including wearing cloth face masks, the washing of hands, keeping at least six feet away from others and avoiding large gatherings.

Public Health also reports aggregated test results to the Air Force COVID Lab Team for submission to the DoD COVID Task Force. No individual lab results are reported based on surveillance testing.

Q: IF MY AGGREGATED SAMPLE GROUP IS POSTIVE AND I SEE MY PROVIDER, WHAT WILL THEY DO?

A: You and your medical provider will determine the scope of this evaluation which could include additional individual testing for the COVID-19 virus. This evaluation and the results from any individual testing will be entered into your medical record the same as for any other medical appointment.

Q: CAN I BE SELECTED MORE THAN ONCE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS TESTING EFFORT?

A: Public Health uses a method to randomly select individuals in targeted testing populations, so it is possible to be selected more than once.

Q: I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS. WHO DO I CONTACT?

A: For further questions and more information, please contact your local base MTF Public Health Office.