

COVID Testing before Holiday Gatherings (Interview Transcripts)

Eileen Knightly, Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center

“If you’re fully vaccinated and you’re boosted, you should still test. If you’re going to be with just your immediate family – meaning the people who live in your household with you – then testing probably isn’t necessary because you’re all together in a household. But if you’re going to bring together multiple households – meaning more than one household – everyone in the group should be tested.” (:21)

Eileen Knightly, Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center

“I think people are really looking to reengage, and that’s wonderful. I think your test should be done very close to the time you’re going to gather. So, for example, if you’re going to gather at four o’clock and go to mass, really make sure that you’re testing sometime that afternoon. It would be great if you could get a quick PCR test somewhere – but if not, the home tests really are fairly accurate.” (:22)

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“The more we spread this, the worse it is, so I would say that if you’re not well you really need to stay home. It’s a really important time for us to really make sure that – and wearing the mask helps, certainly washing our hands and keeping a distance – but if you’re not well, then you should stay home. It’s important that if you’re not well and you test and you’re negative, a couple days later if you are still not well then you should retest. But certainly quarantining is really important.” (:30)

Eileen Knightly, Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center

“We had a significant surge after Thanksgiving so I think it’s going to be really important for everyone to be all in. I think this is something that everyone has to do. If everyone isn’t all in, you could end up in a bad situation at a family gathering when you didn’t need to be.” (:21)