

I was at the protest, should I get tested?

The protests in Franklin were absolutely righteous in their cause. I'm thankful so many people care. What I'm about to say takes NOTHING away from that.

I am concerned however, about the lack of social distancing. I'm concerned about what it will do to the curve.

So, what can we do now? After the protests started, Murphy asked everyone who participated to get tested. I talked to my Pathology contact who oversees testing at a hospital. He indicates the CDC does not recommend testing if you suspect exposure. They suggest isolating for 14 days if you are asymptomatic and get testing if you get symptoms. My guess is working people will not comply.

We discussed waiting a few days and then get tested, but we couldn't settle on an optimum day. What we settled on as the best option was, **if you were there you should get tested now**. The purpose is to find out if you went there infected. If you are positive you should report it. Then we could try to do contact tracing. That is my recommendation.

I admit I'm going outside of CDC guidelines, but I believe those guidelines were written for people who had isolated exposures. This was a mass exposure. I want to be completely honest. I'm out on a limb here without data. I always want to distinguish facts from opinion. It does agree with the Governors recommendation, however.

Now you know my thoughts. It's up to you.