

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Heather Jeffcoat Burton Advertising Phone: 205.515,1972

hjeffcoat@burtonadvertising.com

## BESSEMER QUICK CARE CLINIC TO PARTNER WITH ASSURANCE SCIENTIFIC LABS TO OFFER NO-CONTACT COVID-19 TESTING

BIRMINGHAM, AL (APRIL 15, 2020) – Bessemer Quick Care Clinic has partnered with Assurance Scientific Labs to offer no-contact COVID-19 testing for the general public in addition to area health care workers and First Responders.

With testing sites at max capacity each day, Bessemer Quick Care Clinic will begin testing the general public in addition to essential healthcare workers and First Responders.

Patients must have had a known exposure to COVID-19 or be symptomatic, i.e. fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, myalgia, fatigue, congestion, runny nose, and loss of smell and taste. Patients must also be able to perform a nasal swab on themselves or accompanied by someone who can perform this for them. Patients must also be able to complete a telemedicine visit via the app, Spruce.

Acton Quick Care Clinic, sister clinic to Bessemer Quick Care Clinic, opened no-contact testing three weeks ago to health care workers, seeing a need for those in the front lines to have the ability to be quickly tested. Due to the increase in requests, Acton Quick Care Clinic expanded services this week to include First Responders and the general public. In addition, Bessemer Quick Care Clinic will begin offering the same testing services to all groups effective today. Both clinics will offer testing weekdays from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Currently, turn-around time for results in all testing is under 48 hours, but priority will be given to health care workers and First Responders to ensure they are able to return to work as quickly as possible.

"We began offering testing to health care workers a couple of weeks ago at our Acton Quick Care Clinic, but we were still receiving numerous calls from the general public with requests for testing. To meet this need, we expanded our services so that we could begin testing for the general public at both clinics, in addition to health care workers and First Responders. We hope opening two more locations in our area for testing will prove to be beneficial in the fight against COVID-19," said Ty Thomas, MD, founder of Bessemer Quick Care Clinic and Acton Quick Care



Clinic.

The appointment will begin as a telemedicine visit. Instructions will then be provided explaining when and where to go for testing. Patients will be given a specific parking spot where a test collection kit will be supplied. Patients will need to be able to administer the nasal swab on themselves or have someone with he or she who can administer the swab, according to video instructions provided during the telemedicine visit. The patient will return the sample to a designated collection bin. This process allows for quick access to testing while reducing potential virus transmission during the sample collection process as well as eliminates the unnecessary use of personal protective equipment, which is in short supply.

To schedule an appointment, health care workers and First Responders need to text or call 205-525-6133. The general public needs to call or text 205-273-9424.

Bessemer Quick Care Clinic is located at 727 Memorial Drive, Bessemer. Acton Quick Care Clinic is located in the Assurance Health Building at 2868 Acton Road, Birmingham.

## **About Acton Quick Care Clinic and Bessemer Quick Care Clinic**

These clinics offer convenient care to diagnose and treat non-urgent and emergent conditions in a quick timeframe with no appointment needed. Both clinics diagnose and treat patients suffering from acute illnesses such as allergies, sinus infection, cold, flu, strep throat, stomach bug, rash/skin infection, STDs, UTIs and more. Learn more at ActonQuickCare.com and BessemerQuickCare.com.

## **About Assurance Scientific Laboratories**

Assurance Scientific Laboratories is a highly complex R&D reference lab that develops and provides rapid diagnostic services for clinicians, hospitals, and other reference labs. Assurance specializes in molecular and microbiologic technologies and currently offers testing for over 100 different pathogens, which cause respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, sexually transmitted infections, vaginitis, skin infections, and gastrointestinal infections. Learn more at <u>assurancescientificlabs.com</u> or call 855.319.4459.

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