



## C&W Physicians and Nurses

# COVID-19+ Screening and Testing Algorithm

## March 23, 2020

<b>What's New?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updated symptom listed: <b>Symptoms: fever, new or worsening cough or shortness of breath, pneumonia, influenza-like illness, or upper respiratory tract infection (e.g. rhinorrhea, sore throat)</b></li> <li>2. For patients who are clinically suspected of having COVID-19 based on symptoms above but not tested, advise them to <b>self-isolate for 10 days</b> after symptom onset if their symptoms, other than cough, have resolved.</li> <li>3. Updated testing protocols: Specimens may be submitted via the pneumatic tube. <b>Testing is indicated for patients who are symptomatic and meet the following criteria:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitalized, or likely to be hospitalized (e.g. immunocompromised)</li> <li>• Residents of long-term care facilities (e.g. Sunny Hill)</li> <li>• Part of an outbreak investigation</li> <li>• Health care workers</li> </ul>           Other patients with mild symptoms (not requiring hospitalization), do not require COVID-19 testing.         </li> <li>4. <b>Testing of asymptomatic patients should not be done.</b></li> </ol>
<b>Why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19+ Screening and testing protocols change as new information is gathered and shared. This algorithm is subject to change.</li> </ul>
<b>How does this affect my practice?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be reviewed regularly and shared during program/clinic edu-quicks and meetings. When screening and testing algorithm is updated a new practice update will be disseminated.</li> <li>• Public health surveillance case definition may not be reflected in this algorithm. Refer to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) website for current public health surveillance case definition.</li> </ul>
<b>How do I find out more?</b>	<p>Review the document here  <a href="#">COVID-19 Screening &amp; Testing Algorithm</a></p>
<b>Who do I contact for further information?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact your unit/program clinical educator or nurse leader</li> <li>2. Page the Infection Control Practitioner at:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local 2161 or pager 41-02411 Monday to Friday 0800-1600 or <a href="mailto:JPACS@cw.bc.ca">JPACS@cw.bc.ca</a></b></li> <li>• After Hours page the Infection Control Officer through paging 2161</li> </ul> </li> </ol>