

## Infectious Disease Screening Requirements: Ambulatory

C&W

Updated Sept 11, 2023

### HIGHLIGHTS

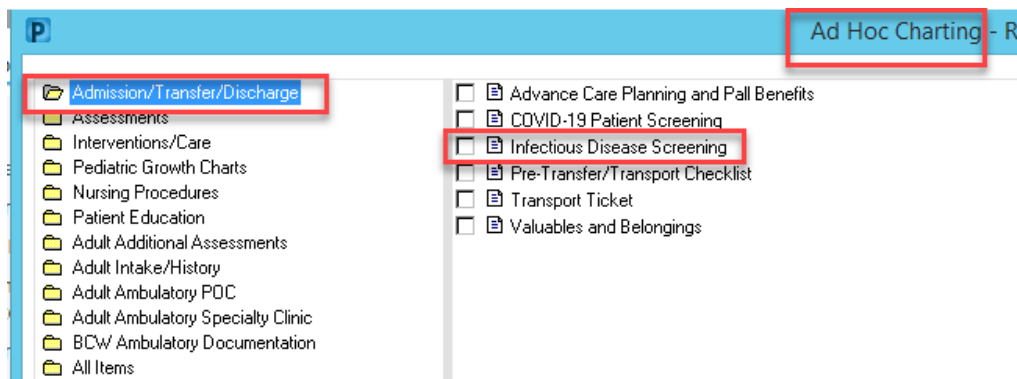
- ▶ Screening patients in the outpatient setting should be inclusive of all communicable illnesses. Screening should occur at the first point of contact to ensure that any patients requiring isolation are promptly placed in a private room.
- ▶ At this time, the COVID-19 screening PowerForm in CST Cerner is not inclusive enough to include all respiratory and gastro-intestinal illnesses so this process will continue on paper.

### What's new...What's the same?

- ▶ All patients will be screened for COVID-19 and other communicable illnesses with CW-specific screening forms as per the [Patient and Visitor Screening Protocol](#), not the COVID-19 screening PowerForm in CST Cerner system.
- ▶ These forms can be found on SHOP: [Ambulatory Patients and Parent/Caregiver/Support Person](#).

### How does this affect my practice? What do I need to do next?

- **CLERKS and other HCPs:** it is within your role to complete the CW screening form. You can (1) print the form, (2) document screening upon patient arrival, (3) add paper form to the chartlet, (4) index form to patient chart each time you document a screening and (5) communicate with team any risk factors. If there are any risk factors present, place the patient and any accompanying support person, in a private room instead of the shared waiting room.
- **NURSING:** if there are any risk factors at the initial screening, or as per your area established workflow (i.e. BCCH ACU), complete detailed ID screening in CST Cerner. In the toolbar; the "Infectious Disease Screening" PowerForm can be found in the adhoc folder. This PowerForm should only be performed by clinicians, and it is not within the clerk's role to screen a patient with the Infectious Disease Screening PowerForm.



## Infectious Disease Screening PowerForm

Unlike inpatient encounters, an **OUTPATIENT** encounter type will **NOT** trigger automatic isolation or swab orders when a patient has positive risk factors. This will need to be done manually and reference text is available within the PowerForm for the recommended isolation type.

- Clinicians enter isolation orders if any risk factors are present on the ID Risk Screening PowerForm in order to communicate the need for precautions  
**Note:** this can be completed by nursing with no-cosignature required, as it is an order for workflow within Cerner and NOT a prescriber order
- Isolation orders DO NOT cross encounters; therefore, screening for ID risks and entering isolation orders with each visit is important to protect the patients and staff

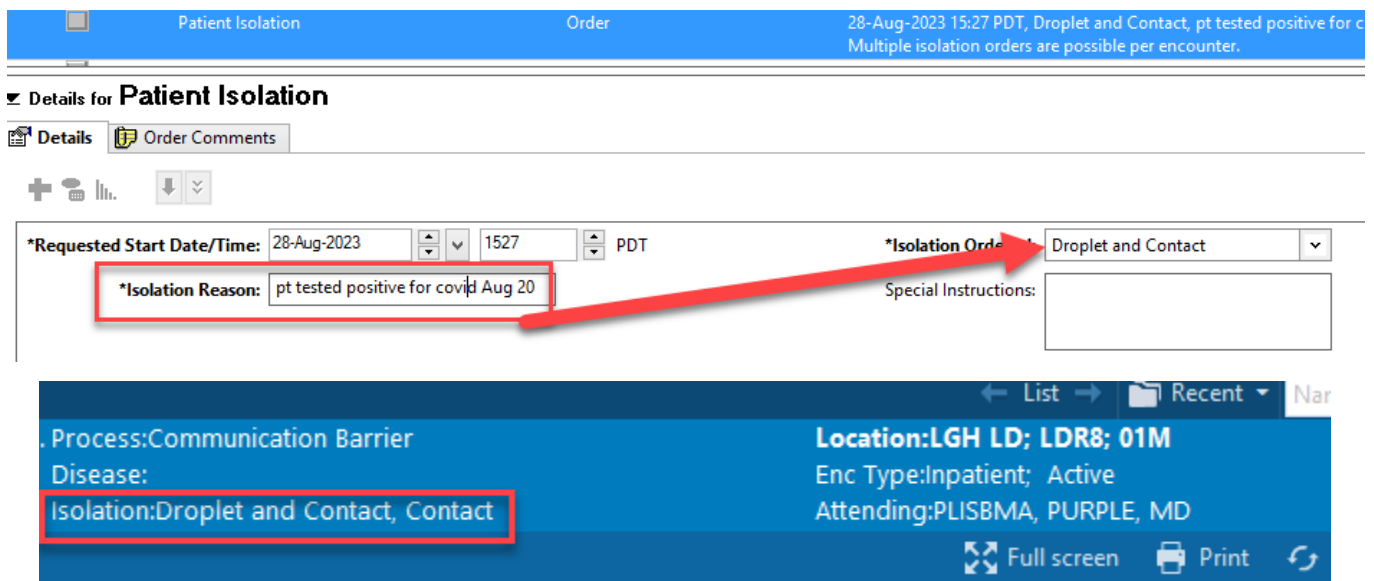
ARO swabs are not mandatory in the ambulatory setting as per policy. Instead, the care team will decide if ARO swabs are necessary on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on Infection Control Screening; including **Disease Alerts**, see [CST Cerner Help: Infection Control Screening and Isolation Initiation \(Ambulatory Nurse and Clerk\)](#)

## How to enter isolation orders?

Navigate to Orders → search isolation → select appropriate isolation (e.g. droplet & contact) → enter isolation reason → click sign

Once this isolation order is signed, the type of isolation will flow to the patient banner bar



The screenshot displays the Cerner interface for entering a Patient Isolation order. At the top, a blue header bar shows 'Patient Isolation' and 'Order' with a timestamp '28-Aug-2023 15:27 PDT' and a note: 'Droplet and Contact, pt tested positive for COVID-19. Multiple isolation orders are possible per encounter.' Below this, the 'Details for Patient Isolation' section is visible, with tabs for 'Details' and 'Order Comments'. The main form area includes fields for '\*Requested Start Date/Time' (28-Aug-2023 15:27 PDT), '\*Isolation Reason' (pt tested positive for covid Aug 20), and '\*Isolation Order' (Droplet and Contact). A red arrow points from the 'Isolation Reason' field to the 'Isolation Order' dropdown. Below the form, a patient banner bar displays: 'Process:Communication Barrier', 'Disease:', 'Isolation:Droplet and Contact, Contact', 'Location:LGH LD; LDR8; 01M', 'Enc Type:Inpatient; Active', and 'Attending:PLISBMA, PURPLE, MD'. Navigation buttons for 'List', 'Recent', 'Full screen', 'Print', and 'Refresh' are also present.

## What are some additional resources and supports?

- [PHSA policy: Screening for Respiratory Communicable Diseases](#)
- [CST Cerner Help: Infection Control Screening & Isolation Initiation \(Ambulatory Nurses & Clerks\)](#)
- [CST Cerner Help: Manually Add and Discontinue Patient Isolation Order](#)

## Who do I contact for further information?

- CRN/educator; IPAC

