

Note: The public health surveillance case definition may not be reflected in the document below; this document is intended for clinical management only and is *subject to change*. Please see the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) website for the current public health surveillance case definition.

1. TRIAGE

Ask patients about the following:

- **Symptoms:** fever, new or worsening cough or shortness of breath, pneumonia, influenza-like illness, or upper respiratory tract infection (e.g. rhinorrhea, sore throat)

AND/OR

- **Self-isolation:** People who have been instructed in last 14 days to self-isolate (includes travel outside of Canada in the last 14 days, been in contact with someone known to have COVID-19 in last 14 days, or tested for COVID-19 and results are pending)

If yes to any of the above, proceed to step 2

2. ISOLATE

1. Ask the symptomatic patient and any symptomatic family members to wash their hands and put on a mask.
2. Put the patient/family in a single room. Use **Droplet and Contact precautions** including eye protection (shield/visor).
3. **Add Airborne precautions if Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedures (AGMP)** are likely to be required. (e.g. nebulized therapy, CPR, CPAP, endotracheal intubation & extubation, high frequency oscillatory ventilation, bronchoscopy and bronchoalveolar lavage, laryngoscopy, positive pressure ventilation (BiPAP & CPAP), sputum induction).

Note: Nasopharyngeal Swab collection does not require N95 mask as per most recent COVID-19 PHAC

3. ASSESS & NOTIFY

Testing is indicated for patients who are **symptomatic** and meet the following criteria:

- Hospitalized, or likely to be hospitalized (e.g. immunocompromised)
- Residents of long-term care facilities (e.g. Sunny Hill)
- Part of an outbreak investigation
- Health care workers

Other patients with mild symptoms (not requiring hospitalization), do not require COVID-19 testing.

Testing of asymptomatic patients should not be done.

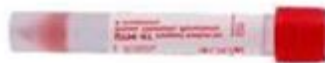
4. TEST

1. **Test for COVID-19:** Use nasopharyngeal flocked swab. Sputum is also acceptable.
2. Label Specimen as "**Suspect COVID-19**"
3. Specimens may be submitted via the pneumatic tube.

Laboratory testing of **all** specimens from a suspect COVID-19 case requires special lab precautions.

Send only those tests needed for IMMEDIATE management.

Note: EDTA Microtainer not accepted for CBC/D; Coagulation studies sent out to VGH



For patients sent home after swab collection, **ask them to self-isolate** and provide them with the Vancouver Coastal Health patient handout including the phone number to call for test results.

For patients who are clinically suspected of having COVID-19 based on symptoms above but not tested, advise them to **self-isolate for 10 days** after symptom onset if their symptoms, other than cough, have resolved.

Version History

DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER and TITLE	ACTION TAKEN
18-Mar-2020	C-0506-01-60565 COVID-19+ Screening and Testing Algorithm	Developed by C&W IPAC; Approved by Professional Practice Director
23-Mar-2020	C-0506-01-60565 COVID-19+ Screening and Testing Algorithm	Developed by C&W IPAC; Approved by Professional Practice Director

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