**COVID-19 PUI Inpatient Testing & Precautions Algorithm**

**Certification**

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- **Criteria to discontinue COVID-19 precautions for Inpatients**
  - To meet criteria for discontinuation of precautions while admitted:
    1. 24 hours have passed since last fever without using fever reducing medications AND
    2. Improvement in symptoms AND
    3. 20 days have passed since symptom onset.

- **Criteria for discharge of inpatients to facility**
  - COVID+: test based strategy no longer recommended (use clinical criteria as described above)
  - Asymptomatic non-suspect: NP swab PCR negative X 1 within 24 of d/c
  - Note: No need to change required PPE or patient room while awaiting test results on an asymptomatic, unsuspected patient

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**COVID-19 PUI**

Person Under Investigation (PUI) criteria for COVID testing met

COVID Precautions ordered: Special Droplet & Contact OR Airborne & Contact*

Lab prioritizes NP swab for PCR

**COVID Result**

- **Positive Result**
  - Maintain Airborne & Contact Precautions
  - Infection Prevention updates Epic flag

- **Moderate to High clinical suspicion** for COVID
  - Maintain Special Droplet & Contact OR Airborne & Contact* precautions
  - Provider places note in chart with clinical suspicion & rationale for precautions
  - Infection Prevention places Epic flag
  - Obtain sputum sample. If unable to obtain sputum, treat as positive.

- **Negative Result**
  - LOW clinical suspicion for COVID
  - Provider uses "COVIDRESULTBRIEF" to document result & follow standard precautions
  - Infection Prevention removes Epic flag

- **If HIGH suspicion for COVID remains, treat as positive. Begin Airborne & Contact precautions. Consider ID consult**

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**COVID-19 Precautions**

Click for UVMMC PPE Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient type</th>
<th>Precautions</th>
<th>PPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUI without aerosol-generating procedures</td>
<td>Special Droplet &amp; Contact</td>
<td>Universal n95 or procedure mask, face shield, gown, gloves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUI with aerosol-generating or COVID+</td>
<td>Airborne &amp; Contact</td>
<td>Fit-tested n95, face shield, gown, gloves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Noyes MD, Carolyn Terhune, P. Stevens RN 8/05/2020
DEFINITIONS AND TEST REFUSAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COVID-19

Purpose:
To provide instructions for the placement and disposition of patients requiring COVID-19 specimen testing at UVMMC.

Definitions:
1. A Patient Under Investigation (PUI) is any patient with potential COVID-19 symptoms or high concern for COVID-19
2. A Non-PUI is any patient that is asymptomatic and does not have clinical concern for COVID-19.

Testing refusal:
• If PUI: place in COVID-19 designated bed.
  • For psychiatric inpatients: place in COVID-19 inpatient bed (not psych).
• If non-PUI: place in a non-COVID-19 designated bed following organization cohorting guidelines if applicable.
  • For psychiatric inpatients: Admission must be approved by medical director. If patient is unwilling to agree to specific infection prevention criteria, then ID will be consulted to identify appropriate placement strategy.

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**PATIENT PLACEMENT FOR ADMISSION BASED ON COVID-19 TESTING STATUS**

Patient meets criteria for admission; Logistics determines need & eligibility for cohorting.

- **ED**: Logistics notifies ED Nurse of need for COVID test order
- **Outside Hospital**: COVID test upon arrival to UVMMC
- **Direct admit from Ambulatory Setting**: COVID test upon arrival to receiving unit

Is the patient a PUI?: active COVID symptoms or high clinical concern $^5$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Is the patient a PUI?</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Order PUI COVID test</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*R/O COVID19 Infection Banner will be triggered in EPIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples of high clinical concern:**
- Recently symptomatic with known exposure
- Asymptomatic with known household exposure

**Mild** to **Moderate** clinical suspicion for COVID

Await result in ED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID test result</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place patient in COVID designated bed</strong></td>
<td>Place per PPS3 policy and cohorting guidelines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Non-PUI**: Patient is asymptomatic and no clinical concern for COVID-19

*R/O COVID 19 Infection Banner will NOT be triggered in EPIC

**Order Non-PUI COVID test**

**Await result in ED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID test result</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place in IP Psych Bed</strong> *Must have negative results within 24 hours of arrival to hospital/ED</td>
<td>Place per PPS3 policy and cohorting guidelines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Meets Criteria for Cohorting in shared room or open bay area**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place patient in COVID designated bed</th>
<th>Patient remains on current unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*ED* stands for Emergency Department. *PPS3* is a policy detailing cohorting guidelines.

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G. Allen, MD, D. Hudson RN, B. Cota, RN 08/05/2020
INPATIENT TESTING & PRECAUTIONS GUIDELINES FOR PATIENTS WITH PRIOR POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

Recurrence of Symptoms Concerning for COVID-19 (after a period of wellness or recovery greater than two weeks)*

No Symptoms Concerning for COVID-19 BUT Fewer than 20 Days since diagnosis

No Symptoms Concerning for COVID-19 AND Greater than or equal to 20 Days since diagnosis

Airborne & Contact Precautions

Airborne & Contact Precautions (COVID-19 Infection banner remains for 30 days)

Standard Precautions

Order COVID Test

NO COVID Test

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*designed to limit unneeded repeat testing in patients expected to remain positive for prolonged periods of time