Patient Placement Guidelines Related to COVID-19 Testing

Purpose: The 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 patients: place in COVID-19 designated bed.
- If non-PUI: place in a non-COVID-19 designated bed.

Implementation:

Current patients in an inpatient bed as of 05/13/2020 at 0700 will not be tested unless symptoms/clinical presentation warrant.

Source: ED admission to Inpatient Unit (expect approximately 4-5 hours for results)

1) PUI: MD will write ED bed request to include level of COVID-19 suspicion.
   a) If Moderate/High - patient will be placed on COVID-19 designated bed per level of care without delay.
   b) If Low - Patient will remain in ED until results are available.
      i) If negative - Place in non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.
      ii) If positive – transfer to COVID-19 designated bed per appropriate level of care.
      iii) If ED at a high census point and is unable to wait for results - place in COVID-19 designated bed.
         (a) Patient logistics will have plan in mind for transfer off of COVID-19 unit in the event the results are negative.

2) Non-PUI (to include placement on inpatient psychiatric unit): MD will write non-PUI COVID-19 testing order. Of note, this will not trigger a COVID-19 R/O banner.
   a) Psychiatry - Patient will wait in the ED until results are available.
      i) If results positive, place on an inpatient acute COVID-19 designated bed, not inpatient psych, and arrange appropriate staffing support.
   b) Inpatient units - Place patient in non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.
      i) If results positive, transfer to COVID-19 designated unit per level of care.
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**Source: Patient is occupying an inpatient bed (including psychiatry)**

1) PUI: MD will write specimen testing order. This will trigger COVID-19 r/o banner in Epic.
   a) If on Miller 5 for neutropenic, inpatient psychiatry or Baird 5 patient: Patient will remain on unit.
   b) If on any other inpatient unit: Patient will be transferred to COVID-19 designated bed according to level of care.

2) Non-PUI for disposition: MD will write non-PUI COVID-19 testing order.
   a) Of note, this will not trigger a COVID-19 R/O banner.
   b) Patient will remain on current unit.
   c) If results come back positive, then patient would be moved to appropriate COVID-19 designated bed per level of care.

**Source: Outside Admission (Direct or Transfer)**

1) Emergent transfers
   a) Do not wait for test results prior to placement.
   b) PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate COVID-19 designated bed per level of care and service.
   c) Non-PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.

2) Urgent/Routine transfers
   a) Wait for test results prior to placement if possible
   b) Positive results are placed in appropriate COVID-19 designated bed per level of care and service.
   c) Negative results are be placed in appropriate non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.
   d) Unable to obtain results:
      i) PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate COVID-19 designated bed per level of care and service.
      ii) Non-PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.

3) Direct Admission from Ambulatory Clinic
   a) Test to be completed on admission.
   b) PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate COVID-19 designated bed per level of care and service.
   c) Non-PUI: Patient to be placed in appropriate non-COVID-19 bed following PPS3 placement policy.
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**Source: Pre-operative and Pre-procedural**

1) Process TBD

*Please see UVMCC COVID-19 intranet website for most current placement algorithm.*