ACH COVID-19 Screening
Emergency Department

This pathway is intended as a guide for staff/providers and is not intended to replace clinical judgement.
Students refer to educational institution guidelines for caring for COVID positive patients

**SYMPTOMS**
- Acute onset of any of the following symptoms:
  - Fever and/or chills
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
  - Muscle or body aches (not explained by exercise or activity)

**EXPOSURE**
- Close contact with person with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or person under investigation for COVID-19

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
- Standard isolation mask for routine care
- N-95 mask (FIT test required) or CAPR (MAXAIR PAPR) for aerosol-generating procedures
- N-95 mask for collecting specimen to rule out COVID
- Eye protection
- Gown
- Gloves

**YES = POSITIVE SCREEN**
Patient with moderate/severe respiratory symptoms or loss of taste/smell
- Place standard isolation mask on patient, family, and escorting staff
- Place patient in a negative pressure rooms on Zone 1 (rooms 8, 10, 12, 14, 15) can be used.
- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (see yellow PPE box)

**YES = POSITIVE SCREEN**
Patient with non-respiratory symptoms
- Place standard isolation mask on patient, family, and escorting staff
- Place patient in a private room with door closed
- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (see yellow PPE box)

**NO = NEGATIVE SCREEN**
Proceed as normal
Patient can be placed in any open room

**Patient Care**
- Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (signs on all doors)
- Direct care providers only to care for patient (no students)
- Disposable equipment is used for patient care (DO NOT remove equipment)
- Advise patient and family to use call light for communication and to NOT leave the room
- Registration & Financial Counseling to be completed via phone
- Cluster care-minimize room entry

**ED Team Leader/ED PCM**
- Ensure airborne and enhanced contact isolation is in place
- Ensure RN/Provider wear PPE, have been FIT tested or have CAPR

**GO TO COVID-19 PATHWAY FOR ED**
ACH COVID-19 Pathway
Emergency Department

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**Initiate IMMEDIATE Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation Precautions**
- Place standard isolation mask on patient, family/caregiver, escorting staff
- Escort patient & family immediately to a negative pressure isolation room
- Place in private room with door closed if negative pressure room unavailable
- If no room available, place in negative pressure waiting room
- If no room available, place patient in waiting room

**History & Physical Exam**
- Respiratory symptoms, duration, and timing of onset
- Ask about ill family members/close contacts
- Ask that all accompanying family members remain at bedside with patient
- Consider other etiologies based on history of travel or exposure

**Testing Decision Making**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Features</th>
<th>Flu Testing</th>
<th>RPP + COVID-19 Testing</th>
<th>COVID-19 Testing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asymptomatic – No exposure Discharging from ED</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asymptomatic + Admission to Facility</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asymptomatic &amp; exposure (at least 5 days after exposure)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with mild symptoms (discharge)</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with moderate/severe symptoms (admission)</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>As clinically indicated</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Order ACH COVID-19 by RT-PCR (stand-alone test) OR Respiratory Pathogen Panel + COVID-19. Collect (1) NP swab in viral transport media and send to main lab. If we run out of viral transport media, (1) NP swab in normal saline is acceptable for COVID-19 PCR testing; however the RPP will not be able to be performed.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
- Standard isolation mask for routine care
- N-95 mask (FIT test required) or CAPR (MAXAIR PAPR) for aerosol-generating procedures
- N-95 mask for collecting specimen to rule out COVID
- Eye protection
- Gown
- Gloves

**Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs):**
- Open suctioning of airways (oral, anterior nasal, nasal pharyngeal, endotracheal, tracheostomy)
- Sputum induction
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Endotracheal intubation/extubation
- Non-invasive ventilation (e.g. BIPAP, CPAP)
- Ventilator circuits with open exhalation (i.e. Trilogy, Vivo-65 or LTV ventilators)
- 3100 A/B Oscillator
- Bronchoscopy and Endoscopy
- Manual ventilation (bag/face mask, bag/endotracheal tube, bag/tracheostomy)
- High flow O2 delivery via OptiFlow

**Other Diagnostic Testing**
- Portable CXR if clinically warranted
- CT not indicated unless concern for other process
- Consider other laboratory testing to guide clinical management

**Admission**
- Patients going to the Burn unit or PICU ward need test results prior to transferring to unit.
- All other patients tested for COVID-19 may be transported to an appropriate inpatient isolation room while awaiting test results.
- Mask patient, family/caregiver, and staff during transport

**Discharge**
- Review follow-up recommendations
- Supportive care including hydration and antipyretics
- Quarantine instructions, including duration
- Follow up with PCP

**See Guidelines for Patients on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation for information on transporting patients**

**CDC home care guidance** - English version
**CDC home care guidance** - Spanish version

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

**ACH COVID-19 Pre-Admission Testing**

**Emergency Department**

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**Patient has a previous COVID-19 diagnosis supported by a positive PCR test**
(documented result from Arkansas Children’s or PCR result from other facility that meets requirements below)

- YES
  - Signs or symptoms of COVID-like illness (arrangements should be made for COVID test and result reporting w/in 72 hours of procedure)
  - COVID-19 exposure in last 10 days without signs or symptoms (rapid COVID-19 test performed on day of surgery)?

- NO
  - Pre-admission/admission testing not needed

**Patient’s symptom onset* of previous COVID-19 infection was within the last 90 days**

- YES
  - Order COVID-19 test

- NO
  - Patient has recovered from acute infection**
    - YES
      - Repeat admission COVID-19 test is NOT recommended
      - Place patient on special respiratory enhanced precautions
    - NO
      - Player has new symptoms that may be consistent with COVID-19 without an alternative etiology identified by the provider
        - YES
          - Consider repeat COVID-19 PCR (or RPP + COVID-19 if clinically indicated)
        - NO

  - NO
    - (>90 days)

**Patient has recovered from acute infection**

- YES
  - Repeat admission COVID-19 test is NOT recommended
  - Place patient on special respiratory enhanced precautions

- NO
  - Patient has new symptoms that may be consistent with COVID-19 without an alternative etiology identified by the provider
    - YES
      - Consider repeat COVID-19 PCR (or RPP + COVID-19 if clinically indicated)
    - NO

*If patient was asymptomatic at time of diagnosis, date of first positive PCR test should be used in place of the date for symptom onset

**Recovery = 10 days from symptom onset* for persons with mild infection or 20 days from symptom onset* for persons admitted with COVID-19 infection or immunocompromised persons AND resolution of fever for at least 24 hours (without antipyretic) AND improvement of symptoms
**Addendum to Clinical Guidelines for Bed Placement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID-19 (confirmed positive)</th>
<th>R/O COVID-19 (formerly PUI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation precautions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Place patient in an Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR); if AIIR not available, place in negative pressure room or regular patient room with door closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation precautions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Place patient in a regular private room with door closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See [COVID Patient Placement/PICU Critical Care COVID Overflow algorithm](#) for appropriate room assignment.