

# ACNW COVID-19 Screening Emergency Department

**This pathway is intended as a guide for staff/providers and is not intended to replace clinical judgement.**

## Screening

(Staff member screening to wear appropriate mask and eye protection per universal masking protocol during screening process)  
Screen all patients/family/caregivers on arrival to ED for exposure to COVID-19 positive person or PUI

### SYMPTOMS

Acute onset of any of the following symptoms:

- Fever and/or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Sore throat
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Muscle or body aches (not explained by exercise or activity)

**OR**

### EXPOSURE (Patients)

Close contact with person with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or person under investigation for COVID-19 in the past 14 days

Patient Referrals: Answers to screening questions will be obtained from OSH and on arrival to ED

Patients arriving by EMS will be screened during radio report or at EMS door

**Adults visiting Arkansas Children's:** Take the adult's temperature. Ask if adult has any of the above symptoms **and/or** has been tested for COVID-19/been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in past 14 days.

### 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

NO = NEGATIVE SCREEN

### STOP

- Place mask on patient, family, and escorting staff
- Patient stable: Notify charge nurse, he/she will determine who will escort patient to AIIR rooms 6 and 7, negative pressure rooms 21, 22, 23, 24.
- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (see yellow PPE box)
- Obtain cell phone number to contact primary caregiver and for ED point person (TL, RN)

Inform ED Team Leader, Attending

UNSUSPECTED

### Proceed as normal

Place mask on patient and place patient in any open room

Behavioral Health patients- provide wire-free mask

### Patient Care

- Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (signs on all doors)
- Attending/APN and RN only to care for patient (no students)
- Disposable equipment is used for patient care (DO NOT remove equipment from room)
- Advise patient and family to not leave room and obtain phone number for Admissions
- Registration & Financial Counseling to be completed via phone
- Cluster care-minimize room entry

### ED Team Leader

- Notify ED TL on shift/on call
- Ensure Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact isolation is in place
- Ensure RN/Provider wear PPE, have been FIT tested or have CAPR
- Staff complete PPE Assessment in EPIC

**GO TO COVID-19 POSITIVE SCREEN PATHWAY FOR ED**

# ACNW COVID-19 Positive Screen Pathway Emergency Department

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**SYMPTOMS**  
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 -Fever and/or chills  
 -Cough  
 -Sore throat  
 -New loss of taste or smell  
 -Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea  
 -Muscle or body aches (not explained by exercise or activity)  
 -Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  
 -Fatigue  
 -Headache  
 -Congestion or runny nose

**OR**

**EXPOSURE (Patients)**  
Close contact with person with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or person under investigation for COVID-19 in the past 14 days

**Adults visiting Arkansas Children's:** Take the adult's temperature. Ask if adult has any of the above symptoms and/or has been tested for COVID-19/been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in past 14 days.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Standard isolation mask for routine care
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**Initiate IMMEDIATE Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation Precautions**

- Apply regular mask to patient, family, escorting staff
- Escort patient & family immediately to a negative pressure isolation room
- Place in private room with door closed if negative pressure room unavailable

**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)
- Bronchoscopy and Endoscopy
- Manual ventilation (bag/face mask, bag/endotracheal tube, bag/tracheostomy)
- High flow O2 delivery via OptiFlow

**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

**Other Diagnostic Testing**

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

**Testing Decision Making**

| Clinical Features  | Flu Testing | RPP Testing             | COVID-19 Testing <sup>1</sup> |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Asymptomatic – No exposure<br>Discharging from ED                                  | NO          | NO                      | NO                            |
| Asymptomatic + Admission to Facility   | NO          | NO                      | NO                            |
| Asymptomatic & exposure (at least 5 days after exposure)                           | NO          | NO                      | YES                           |
| Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with mild symptoms (discharge)            | YES         | NO                      | YES                           |
| Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with moderate/severe symptoms (admission) | YES         | As clinically indicated | YES                           |

\*Symptoms compatible with acute COVID-19

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



All patients being tested for COVID-19 require quarantine

(1) Order ACH COVID-19 by RT-PCR. 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.

**Discharge**

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

[CDC home care guidance -English version](#)  
[CDC home care guidance-Spanish version](#)

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

**Admission**

- Admit to an appropriate inpatient isolation room
- Mask patient, family, and staff during transport