COVID-19 ED Clinical Workflow
4.2.2020 1700
Spectrum Health contact: Nick Kuhl, MD

Patient* presents with any of three common COVID-19 symptoms:
- Fever > 100°F
- New or worsening shortness of breath in the last 48 hours
- New or worsening cough in the last 48 hours

Patient masked. Care team don mask & goggles. Severe Respiratory Isolation PPE (Box 2.) is indicated if within 6 feet of patient.

Workup as indicated. Minimize studies requiring red top “Viral Transport Media” to preserve stock for COVID-19 PCR if indicated.

Manage alternate cause, disposition appropriately. Refer de-escalation of PPE to Inpatient Team.

Confirmed alternate diagnosis explains symptoms? (e.g. flu, CHF, lobar PNA)

Discharge Home. Self care per AVS instructions

Patient admitted

*Indicate in ED Hospital Bed Request: “r/o Covid”
- Type .COVID19ED in ED note MDM and check testing criteria (also in Box 1.)
- IF criteria met order COVID-19 PCR
- Diagnose with presumed COVID-19
- Counsel populations at risk for severe disease (see reference box below)

Regional ED Patients: If transferring to GR, COVID ordered & collected after transfer

Yes

Can patient be discharged?

No

Yes

Regional ED Patients: If transferring to GR, COVID ordered & collected after transfer

If admitting into regional hospital, discuss with inpatient team as above. Lab courier will transport swab to GR for processing.

If transferring to GR, COVID ordered & collected after transfer

No

Discharge Home. Self care per AVS instructions

*Note re: SH Critical Healthcare Workers
If a critical healthcare worker (Box 1.) has mild symptoms (new myalgias, malaise, congestion, or sore throat) AND an unprotected exposure to a presumed COVID+ patient, then CAN order testing in ED OR via SH Employee Hotline (833.559.0658) as outpatient.

Box 1.
Current Definition of Critical Healthcare Workers:
- Providers (physician, PA, NP)
- Registered Nurse
- Aero Med (all roles)
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- CRNA
- Dialysis
- Echo Tech
- Environmental Services
- Home Care (home health aide & visiting nurse)
- Infection Prevention
- Laboratory
- Nurse Tech (all hospital based)
- Perfusionist
- Pharmacy
- PT, OT, Speech & Language Pathology
- Radiology Tech
- Respiratory Therapy
- Scrub Tech (transplant, trauma, orthopedic trauma, neurosurgery only)
- Transplant coordinator
- Adult BMT
- LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse)
- CAN (Certified Nurse Assistant)
- EEG Tech

Box 2.
Severe Respiratory Isolation PPE:
- Gown
- Gloves
- Eye protection
- Surgical mask^*^Aerosolizing Procedures requiring N95/PAPR: BIPAP/CPAP, nebulized medications, trach aerosol device (trach collar or t-piece), continuous treatments via ventilator, active intubation, CPR, large bore high flow nasal canula, bag-valve-mask ventilation (a viral filter should be inserted between the face mask and BV)

^ Procedures that do not require N95/PAPR: Circuit change on a ventilator, MDI medications, regular nasal canula regardless of flow rate

Box 3.
Source of Truth = .COVID19ED dot phrase via MDM

PS staffed 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, for all medical staff.
After hours, can call the COVID-19 hotline, 833.559.0660.