

COVID-19 ED Workflow & Testing Criteria – Jan 13, 2021, 1303

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Box 1. ED COVID Retesting Guideline

ED Patients Previously (+) for COVID-19:

Currently Asymptomatic:

<= 90 days since initial positive test

No retesting recommended. Follow isolation discontinuation guidelines.

> 90 days since initial (+) test

Retesting only recommended for admission cohorting or procedural clearance needs. Isolate if positive.

Currently Symptomatic After Initial Recovery:

Isolate. Search for alternative etiology (film array, other). If no alternative found then clinical diagnosis of recurrent COVID can be considered and retesting may be appropriate, especially if >90 days since first positive.

ED Patients Previously (-) for COVID-19:

Currently Asymptomatic:

<= 96 hours since most recent negative test

No retesting. Patient is COVID negative for purposes of admission cohorting or procedure clearance.

> 96 hours since most recent negative test

Test if patient has an appropriate indication.

Currently Symptomatic:

Initiate isolation & consider retesting.

Box 2. CDC Isolation Discontinuation Criteria:

Mild/moderate illness (no ICU) & not severely immunocompromised*:

- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND
- 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, SOB) have improved

Note: **Asymptomatic** patients NOT severely immunocompromised may discontinue isolation once 10 days have passed since their first positive COVID-19 PCR.

Severe/critical illness (ICU stay) OR severely immunocompromised*:

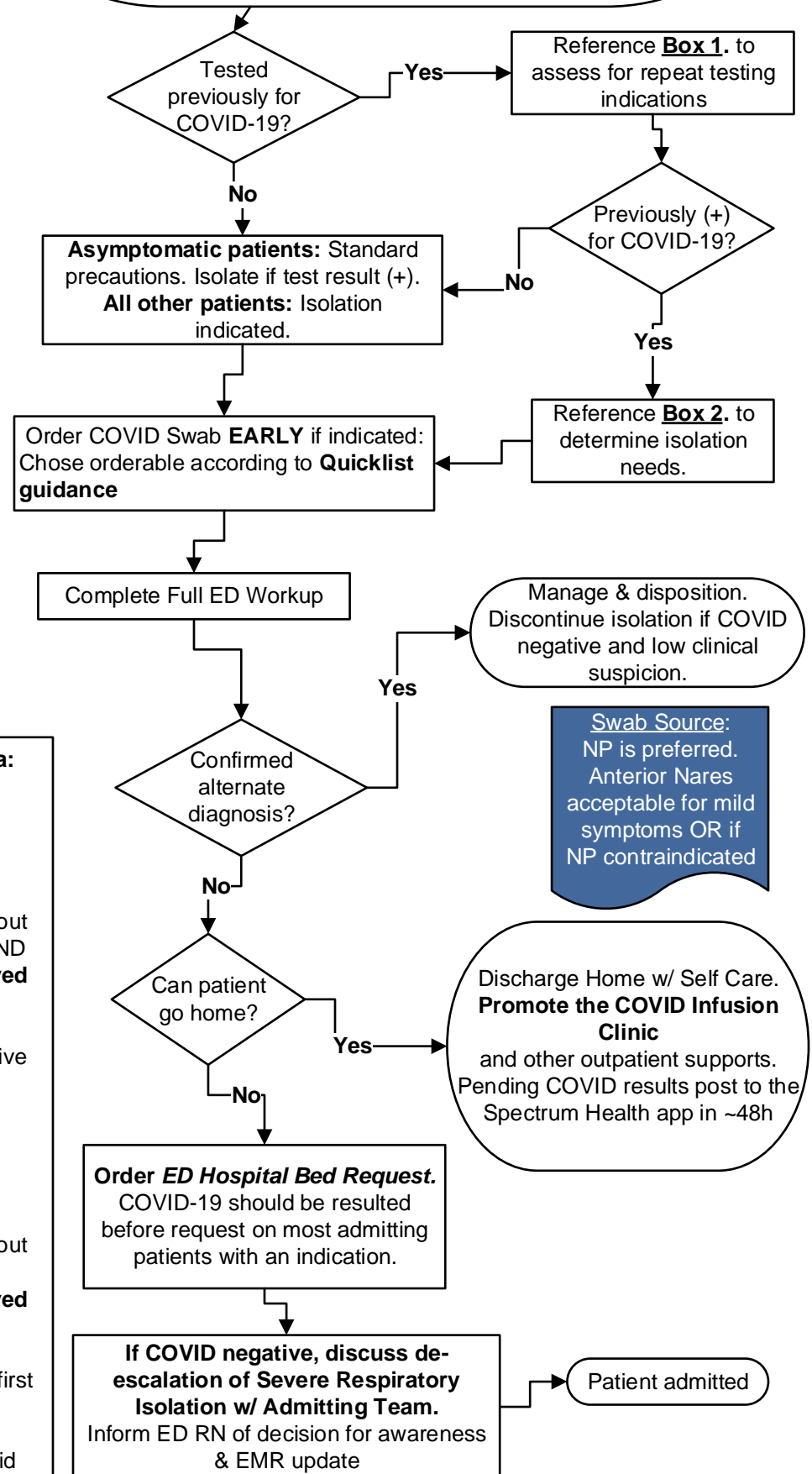
- 20 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND
- 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, SOB) have improved

Note: **Asymptomatic**, severely immunocompromised patients may discontinue isolation once 20 days have passed since their first positive COVID-19 PCR.

*Severely immunocompromised = History of solid organ or bone marrow transplant; Cancer undergoing chemotherapy; Primary immunodeficiency; HIV infection; or on Immunosuppressive medications.

ED patient presents with any of the below:

- **COVID Symptom(s)**: at least 1 from the following:
Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath, Loss of Taste or Smell, Fatigue, Body Aches, Headache, Sore Throat, Congestion, Diarrhea, Nausea/Vomiting
- Code: **STEMI/Cath Lab, Trauma Activation, Stroke Hot Spot, Post Arrest, other**
- Unable to assess symptoms: **AMS, No reliable historian**, etc.
- **Known exposure** (within 6 feet for ≥ 15 min) **least four days ago**
- Screening ahead of an upcoming **surgery/procedure** with likely airway manipulation or required for **facility admission**.



Swab Source:
NP is preferred.
Anterior Nares acceptable for mild symptoms OR if NP contraindicated