## AHS COVID-19 Expanded Testing Algorithm

**For All Ambulatory Care/OPD**

### COVID-19 Core/Respiratory Symptom(s)**
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Decreased O₂ saturation or increased O₂ requirement
- Sore throat/painful swallowing
- Runny nose/nasal congestion/sneezing
- Fever/chills/rigors
  - Adults >37.8°C; Pediatrics ≥38.0°C
- Loss of/change to sense of smell (anosmia)/taste (dysgeusia)

### COVID-19 GI Symptom(s)**
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

### COVID-19 Expanded Symptom(s)**
- Headache
- Myalgia (muscle pain)/arthralgia (joint pain)
- Fatigue/extreme exhaustion
- Nausea/sudden loss of appetite
- Conjunctivitis/red eye/chemosis (conjunctival edema)
- Any additional symptoms at clinician’s discretion (e.g. skin manifestations such as “COVID toes”)

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### Decision Tree

**Does patient have at least ONE Core/Respiratory Symptom(s)** or GI Symptom(s)

**NO**

**Has patient travelled anywhere outside of Canada within the last 14 days?**

**YES**

**NO**

**Does patient have a positive COVID-19 test within the last 14 days or test currently pending (check lab results)**

**NO**

**Direction has been given for the patient to remain on Contact and Droplet Precautions, quarantine or self-isolation?**

**YES**

**NO**

**Does patient meet any of the following:**
- Close contact*(see page 2) of a person with acute respiratory illness who has travelled anywhere outside of Canada in the 14 days before their illness
- Close contact*(see page 2) of a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 within 14 days before illness onset
- Associated with a COVID-19 outbreak at any healthcare unit/facility, congregate living, or other workplace or social gathering within the last 14 days. Refer to link: COVID-19 outbreak
- Had laboratory exposure to biological material known to contain COVID-19 virus within the last 14 days

**YES**

**NO**

**Does patient have any Expanded Symptom(s)?**

**NO**

**YES**

- Proceed with exam/appointment
- Follow Routine Practices (including continuous masking and +/- eye protection)
- Use usual site process for COVID-19 testing

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**Note:** This algorithm addresses COVID-19 testing only. Clinicians should order other diagnostic tests as indicated.

**Revised date:** December 3, 2021

**ECC Approved:** December 3, 2021
COVID-19 Risk Factors – Definition of a Close Contact:

*A close contact is someone who:

- Provided direct care for the case, (including HCW, family members or other caregivers), or who had other similar close physical contact (e.g., intimate partner, hug, kiss, handshake) without consistent and appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
  
  OR

- Lived with or otherwise had close prolonged contact which may be cumulative, i.e., multiple interactions for a total of 15 min or more and within two metres with a case without consistent and appropriate use of PPE and not isolating
  
  OR

- Had direct contact with infectious bodily fluids of a case (e.g., shared cigarettes, glasses/bottles, eating utensils) or was coughed or sneezed on while not wearing recommended PPE