AHS Respiratory Illness and Gastrointestinal Illness Assessment Algorithm (including COVID-19)

For All Ambulatory Care/OPD Patients

Respiratory/Core Symptom(s)\(^\text{v}\)
(new/worse/unexplained within the last 7 days)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Decreased O\(_2\) saturation or increased O\(_2\) requirement
- Sore throat/painful swallowing/hoarse voice
- 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)

Gastrointestinal (GI) Symptom(s)\(^\text{±}\)
(new/worse/unexplained within the last 7 days)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

If unable to assess patient due to altered mental status/decreased level of consciousness AND appointment must proceed, place patient on Modified Respiratory Precautions and use usual process for COVID-19 testing.

---

### Algorithm

**Does patient have at least ONE Respiratory/Core Symptom\(^\text{v}\) or GI Symptom\(^\text{±}\) present?**

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

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

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

- [ ] Proceed with appointment/procedure
- [ ] Follow Routine Practices
  - (including continuous masking +/- eye protection)

---

©2022 Alberta Health Services, IPC

https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/