AHS COVID-19 Expanded Testing Algorithm
Residential Treatment Centres

COVID-19 Core Symptom(s)*
(new/worse or unexplained within the last 7 days)
☐ Cough
☐ Fever/chills/riagers
  o Adults >37.8°C
  o Pediatrics ≥38.0°C
☐ Shortness of breath
☐ Difficulty breathing
☐ Decreased O2 saturation or increased O2 requirement
☐ Sore throat/painful swallowing
☐ Runny nose/nasal congestion
☐ Loss of/change to sense of smell (anosmia)/taste (dysgeusia)

COVID-19 GI Symptom(s)*
(new/worse and unexplained within the last 7 days)
☐ Vomiting
☐ Diarrhea

COVID-19 Expanded Symptom(s)*
(new/worse and unexplained within the last 7 days)
☐ 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”)

Does patient have at least ONE new/worse or unexplained Core Symptom* or GI Symptom* present?

YES
☐ Implement Contact & Droplet Precautions due to symptoms
☐ Use usual site process for COVID-19 testing

NO

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

YES
Date of return ____________________ (if applicable)

NO

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

YES
☐ Implement Contact & Droplet Precautions

NO

Does patient meet any of the following:
Close contact* of a person with acute respiratory illness who has travelled anywhere outside of Canada in the 14 days before their illness

OR
Close contact* of a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 within 14 days before illness onset

OR
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

OR
Had laboratory exposure to biological material known to contain COVID-19 virus within the last 14 days

Date of last exposure ____________________ (if applicable)

NO

Does patient have any new/worse or unexplained Expanded Symptom(s)*?

YES
☐ Follow Routine Practices (including continuous masking and +/- eye protection)

NO

Follow Routine Practices

Note: This algorithm addresses COVID-19 testing only.

* 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) with out consistent and appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
  • 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
  • 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

If unable to assess patient due to altered mental status/decreased level of consciousness, place patient on Contact & Droplet Precautions and use usual process for COVID-19 testing

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