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

For All Admitted Inpatients, ED/UCC, Surgery, Obstetrics, Inter-Facility Transfers, Direct Admissions

**Respiratory/Core Symptom(s)**

(occurred/worse/unexplained within the last 7 days)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Decreased O₂ saturation or increased O₂ requirement
- Sore throat/painful swallowing/hoarse voice
- Runny nose/nasal congestion/sneezing
- Fever/chills/rigors
- Loss of/change to sense of smell (anosmia)/taste (dysgeusia)

*Indicates respiratory symptom

**Gastrointestinal (GI) Symptom(s)**

(occurred/worse/unexplained within the last 7 days)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

**Expanded Symptom(s)**

(occurred/worse/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”)

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**IF:** Does patient have at least ONE Respiratory/Core Symptom present?

**THEN:**

**IF:** Does patient have at least ONE GI Symptom present?

**THEN:**

**IF:** Does patient have any of the following COVID-19 Risk Factor(s)?

(If unable to assess, answer YES)

**THEN:**

**COVID-19 Risk Factor(s)**
- COVID-19 test: positive COVID-19 within the last 14 days or currently pending (check lab results)
- Household close contact of a COVID-19 case
- Associated with a COVID-19 outbreak at any healthcare unit/facility or any congregate setting within the last 14 days. Refer to link: COVID-19 outbreak
- Direction has been given for the patient to remain on Contact and Droplet Precautions, Modified Respiratory Precautions, quarantine or self isolation

NOTE: If patient has COVID-19 risk factor(s) only AND is severely immunocompromised, please contact IPC for further direction about testing

**THEN:**

**IF:** Does patient have any Expanded Symptom(s)

**THEN:**

**FOLLOW Routine Practices (including continuous masking +/- eye protection)**

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If unable to assess patient due to altered mental status/decreased level of consciousness, place patient on Modified Respiratory Precautions and order lab test for COVID-19

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