

Emergency Department Guidance for Patients with COVID-19 Symptoms

Patient presents with COVID-19 symptoms:
Fever AND cough or difficulty breathing

Mask patient immediately, place in separate room, don appropriate PPE, assess for severity of illness and perform diagnostic testing

Does patient require hospitalization?

YES

- Collect NP swab for COVID-19 testing to send to in-hospital lab
- If in-hospital testing not available, call PH to arrange testing

Report positive cases to PH

NO

Is this patient priority population?
(See inset)

NO

Testing is not required

YES

- Collect NP swab for COVID-19 testing to send to in-hospital lab
- If in-hospital testing not available, call PH to arrange testing

Report positive cases to PH

Instruct patient to isolate at home until 7 days passed since symptoms first appeared AND at least 3 days passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath).

Priority Populations:

- Evidence of lower respiratory disease without alternative diagnosis;
- Any resident of a senior living facility, including skilled nursing facilities or assisted living facilities;
- Health care workers;
- Persons who care for the elderly; and
- Persons experiencing homelessness

