

## CORONA POSITIVE OR SUSPECTED PATIENT MANAGEMENT-HOSPITAL

Health providers and clinicians should continue to work with their local and state health departments to coordinate testing through public health laboratories.

Clinicians should use their judgment to determine if a patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and whether the patient should be tested.

**Who is COVID- 19 patient?** Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19

**Who is suspected COVID- 19 patient?** Patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19

### HOW TO MANAGE?

#### 1) TRIAGE: RECOGNIZE AND SORT PATIENTS

- 1) Hospitalized patients who have signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 in order to inform decisions related to infection control.
- 2) Other symptomatic individuals such as, older adults and individuals with chronic medical conditions and/or an immunocompromised state that may put them at higher risk for poor outcomes (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, receiving immunosuppressive medications, chronic lung disease, chronic kidney disease).
- 3) Any persons including healthcare personnel, who within 14 days of symptom onset had close contact with a suspect or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient, or who have a history of travel from affected geographic areas within 14 days of their symptom onset.

#### Note that

**For healthcare personnel, testing may be considered if there has been exposure to a person with suspected COVID-19 without laboratory confirmation. Because of their often extensive and close contact with vulnerable patients in healthcare settings, even mild signs and symptoms (e.g., sore throat) of COVID-19 should be evaluated among potentially exposed healthcare personnel)**

**Additional information is available in CDC's  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>**

- 2) IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC) MEASURES
- 3) EARLY SUPPORTIVE THERAPY AND MONITORING
- 4) NOTIFY INFECTION CONTROL PERSONNEL AT THEIR HEALTHCARE FACILITY AND THEIR STATE OR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT IF A PATIENT IS CLASSIFIED AS A PUI FOR COVID-19.
- 5) COLLECTING AND TESTING UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT SPECIMENS (NASOPHARYNGEAL AND OROPHARYNGEAL SWABS) IS RECOMMENDED FOR INITIAL DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR COVID-19.
- 6) TESTING LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT SPECIMENS IS RECOMMENDED, IF AVAILABLE.
- 7) SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PREGNANT PATIENTS.
- 8) PATIENTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO STAY HOME AND CONTACT THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER BY PHONE FOR GUIDANCE ABOUT CLINICAL MANAGEMENT EXCEPT:

- 1) Patients who have severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing
- 2) Older patients and individuals who have underlying medical conditions or are immunocompromised

#### Reference:

• CDC

• WHO