Physician Guidance for Management of Patients with Suspected (and Confirmed) COVID-19 Infection at TOH

COVID-2019 symptoms: fever, and/or new or worsening respiratory symptoms (cough and/or shortness of breath)

Screening (Symptoms + Travel / Exposure History)
- Signs are posted at all ED entrances and in outpatient areas with patient instructions for FRI symptoms
- ED, Ambulatory Care must also ask patients about FRI symptoms and travel history
- If COVID-19 symptoms and travel outside Canada are entered in EPIC, alert appears to consider COVID-19

Patient Placement
- Droplet precautions (private room preferred)
- For aerosol-generating procedures only (see below): airborne precautions (negative pressure room)

Personal Protective Equipment
- All healthcare providers providing direct care must use Droplet + Contact precautions – gowns at all times for COVID
- For aerosol generating procedures (see below) – negative pressure room; must be currently N95 respirator fit tested (in the past 2 years) in order to see patients
- If you are not currently fit tested: contact Safety Office / Medical Affairs for additional information

Aerosol-generating Procedures
- Endotracheal intubation (includes during CPR / Code Blue)
- CPR
- Open airway suctioning
- Bronchoscopy
- Surgery and autopsy
- Sputum induction
- CPAP, BiPAP
- High flow oxygen therapy

Trainees
- Only currently N95 fit-tested residents and fellows are permitted to assess patients, if MRP agrees
- Students and non-fit tested residents/fellows are NOT permitted to assess patients

Patient Assessment
- Physician to assess patient, and confirm FRI symptoms and travel history
- ** Infectious Diseases consultation is NOT required **
- If COVID-2019 is suspected ensure that Infection Prevention and Control (off hours, CAoS) is notified
Testing
Refer to last three pages of this document for current EPIC instructions for ordering — please note this situation is dynamic and recommendations may change based on supply chain
- Notify Infection Prevention and Control (C: 17928; G: 78605) for any patient who has been tested

Patient Disposition
- If admission is required, admit to most appropriate unit; Droplet + Contact Precautions are required for routine care
- If patient has been tested for COVID-2019 but can be discharged home:
  - Patient to wear procedure mask, and clean hands prior to leaving exam room
  - Patient must remain at home (not to leave the home)
  - Ordering physician is responsible for communicating test results to patient
  - Inform patient that Ottawa Public Health may contact him/her at home if test is positive
  - If patient or family has questions or concerns, follow up with Ottawa Public Health – information is available on their website below, or call them at 613-580-6744

TOH Information

TOH Infection Prevention and Control website:

FAQs on MyHospital: https://theottawahospital.sharepoint.com/sites/myHospital/en/TOH-Today/Novel-coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx

Additional Information

General information for healthcare providers: Ottawa Public Health:


Current screening and prevention recommendations: Ministry of Health:


March 13, 2020
COVID-19 Virus Test

ORDERING AND SAMPLE COLLECTION GUIDELINE

REMINDER: Please use droplet and contact precautions while collecting the specimens. Do not combine or pool the swabs. Send kit with collected specimens to the Microbiology laboratory.

PHO Laboratory will accept samples for COVID-19 testing from individuals meeting criteria for a person under investigation (PUI) or probable case for COVID-19 as outlined by the Ontario Ministry of Health


PHO Laboratory pre-approval for COVID-19 testing is no longer required, provided that the following mandatory information is included on the requisition:

1. Does the individual meets criteria for a person under investigation? (yes/ no)
2. Travel history (country and dates)
3. Contact of case or probable case? (yes/no); if no, other sick contacts (yes/no; if yes, describe)
4. Symptom onset date
5. Patient symptoms (fever, cough, runny nose, pneumonia)
6. Patient setting (ICU, hospitalized, ER or outpatient)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Epic Order</th>
<th>Specimens from: Likely to be hospitalized patient</th>
<th>Specimens from: NOT likely to be hospitalized patient</th>
<th>Requisition required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coronavirus Panel – LAB41006 (place a separate lab order for every specimen collected)</td>
<td>Nasopharyngeal Swab Mandatory Specimen</td>
<td>Nasopharyngeal Swab Mandatory Specimen</td>
<td>COVID-19 Virus Test Requisition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Throat Swab Mandatory Specimen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lower Respiratory Tract sample Optional Specimen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiratory Virus Triplex PCR – LAB40680</td>
<td>Testing for Flu and RSV will be performed from the same Nasopharyngeal specimen collected for COVID-19 testing. Place the new (separate) lab order label in the bag. Return kit to the laboratory</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The local public health unit must be contacted about individuals that meet case definition for a person under investigation or probable case for COVID-19. For contact and information on your local health unit, please see the Ministry of Health PHU Locator. As the situation evolves new recommendations impacting laboratory detection of COVID-19 may become available and will be communicated. If you have any questions, please contact the on-call Microbiologist through TOH locating.

March 13, 2020
Coronavirus (COVID) Order in Epic

Order “Coronavirus”. Two options appear, one for “likely to be hospitalized” (or hospitalized) and one for “not likely to be hospitalized” (or outpatient).

Ordering instructions for COVID-19 appear with instructions for specimen collection. Required information must be completed.

Likely to be hospitalized / inpatient – PLEASE SEND NP SWAB AND THROAT SWAB

March 13, 2020
Not likely to be hospitalized / outpatient – PLEASE NOTE THAT AT THIS TIME WE ARE RECOMMENDING A THROAT SWAB ONLY, NOT AN NP SWAB, FOR ANYONE NOT REQUIRING ADMISSION (order is unchanged in EPIC)
COVID Specimen Collection Kits

Available in the ERs.

For inpatients: if proper supplies are not available / cannot be located on the unit, please contact the EORLA lab to request.