

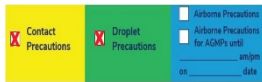

# RESPIRATORY VIRUS HIGHLIGHTS

This document provides guidance related for respiratory virus management outside of COVID-19. For COVID-19 specific-guidance, please refer to the Shared Health [Shared Health Provincial COVID-19 resources](#) for health care providers and staff website.

**NOTE:** where term patient is used, it shall be interpreted as referring to patient, resident or client.

<b>Contact IP&amp;C</b>	For <b>ALL ADMITTED</b> suspected or confirmed cases report to site/region/SDO IP&C. After hours, ensure contact information is available specific to your site/region/SDO.
<b>Transmission (Droplet/Contact)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Person-to-person transmission through large respiratory droplets when infected persons cough/sneeze</li> <li>Direct or indirect contact with respiratory secretions (e.g., touching contaminated surfaces and then touching the eyes, nose or mouth)</li> <li>Individuals with asymptomatic infection can also transmit virus to susceptible individuals</li> </ul>
<b>Signs &amp; Symptoms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever/chills</li> <li>Cough</li> <li>Sore throat</li> <li>Exhaustion</li> <li>Joint pain</li> <li>Stuffy/runny nose</li> <li>Shortness of breath</li> <li>Extreme weakness/fatigue</li> <li>Headache / eye pain</li> <li>Muscle pain</li> <li>Body aches</li> <li>Malaise / loss of appetite</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Persons less than 5 years or greater than 65 years of age or immune compromise may not present with a fever</p>

## INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL MEASURES

<b>Source Control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signage at entrances</li> <li><a href="#">Hand hygiene</a> (HH) and <a href="#">respiratory etiquette</a></li> <li>Ask patient to don a procedure mask</li> <li>Separate waiting areas for patients with potential infection if unable to immediately isolate</li> </ul>		
<b>Additional Precautions &amp; Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Droplet/Contact Precautions required</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> in context of current COVID-19 Pandemic, in addition to Droplet/Contact Precautions, implement <a href="#">Airborne Precautions for any AGMPs</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post <a href="#">Additional Precautions</a> sign on door/curtain of the room/bed space</li> <li>Dedicate equipment. If unable, clean and disinfect between uses</li> </ul>  		
<b>Accommodation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place patient in a private room</li> <li>If a private room is unavailable, appropriately cohort patients. Consult site IP&amp;C.</li> </ul>		
<b>Testing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect <b>nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs</b> for viral detection using a flocked swab</li> </ul>		
<b>Transport of Cases</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify Transport Services &amp; the receiving department regarding need for <a href="#">Additional Precautions</a> in advance of the transport/procedure</li> <li>Patient should perform <a href="#">hand hygiene</a> and <a href="#">don procedure mask</a>, and wear clean clothes, house coat, or gown. Assist as required</li> <li>Staff should perform <a href="#">hand hygiene</a> and <a href="#">don PPE</a> (gown, gloves, mask, eye protection)</li> </ul>		
<b>Discontinuation of Precautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult ICP/designate prior to discontinuing additional precautions</li> <li>Discontinue precautions for suspected or confirmed non-ventilated patients based on resolution of symptoms/clinical improvement</li> <li>Discontinue precautions for suspected or confirmed ventilated patients based on clinical improvement for 48 hours</li> <li>Discontinuation of additional precautions is not based on duration of treatment or negative results. If the NP swab result is negative, <b>DO NOT</b> immediately discontinue precautions if the patient continues to have symptoms of a febrile respiratory illness</li> <li>Patients may have chronic respiratory symptoms and/or a post-viral cough, which do not require continuation of precautions</li> </ul>		
<b>Signs of Clinical Improvement</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3;"> <p><b>Signs of clinical improvement in the non-ventilated patient</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreased cough</li> <li>Decreased sputum production</li> <li>Improved oxygen saturation</li> </ul> </td> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3;"> <p><b>Signs of clinical improvement in the ventilated patient case could include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discontinuation of mechanical ventilation (i.e. ventilator)</li> <li>Afebrile</li> <li>Decreased respiratory secretions</li> <li>Improved respiratory pressures (clinical judgement of Attending Physician/Respiratory Therapist)</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Signs of clinical improvement in the non-ventilated patient</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreased cough</li> <li>Decreased sputum production</li> <li>Improved oxygen saturation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Signs of clinical improvement in the ventilated patient case could include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discontinuation of mechanical ventilation (i.e. ventilator)</li> <li>Afebrile</li> <li>Decreased respiratory secretions</li> <li>Improved respiratory pressures (clinical judgement of Attending Physician/Respiratory Therapist)</li> </ul>
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<b>Visitor Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate visitors and designated caregivers regarding <a href="#">hand hygiene</a>, <a href="#">respiratory hygiene</a>, and use of PPE (<a href="#">donning</a> and <a href="#">doffing</a>)</li> <li>Encourage visitors to perform <a href="#">hand hygiene</a> on entry and exit to care areas</li> <li>Limit the number of visitors and designated caregivers in the room</li> <li>Advise visitors with symptoms of a communicable infection to stay home (exceptions may be considered in extenuating circumstances; staff to contact IP&amp;C)</li> </ul>		