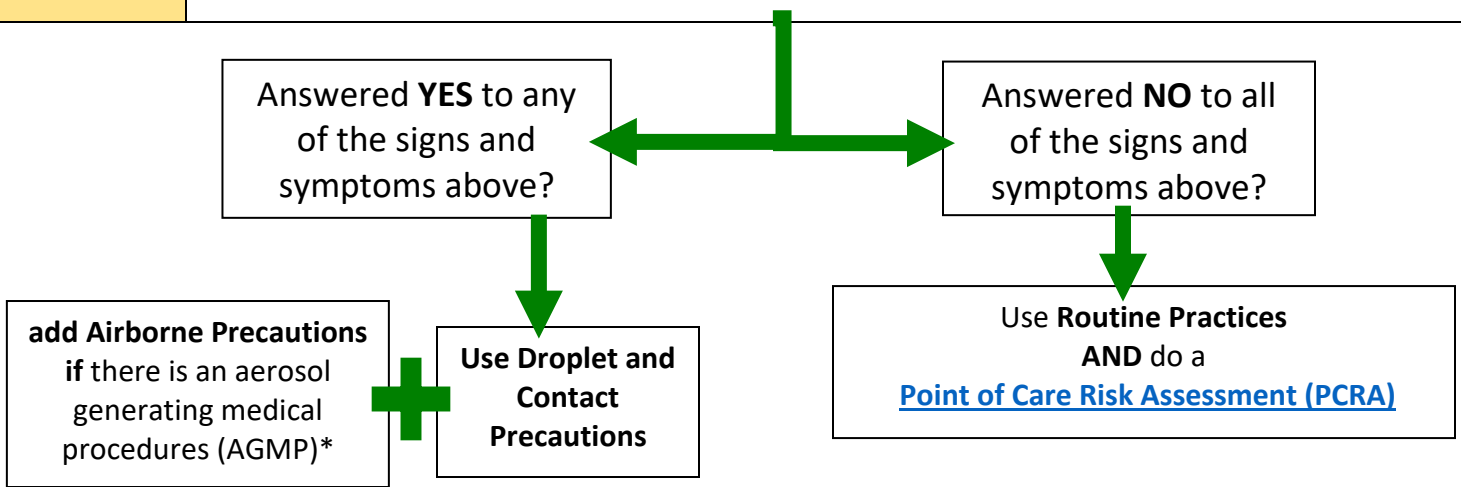


RESPIRATORY VIRAL ILLNESS (RVI) SCREENING ALGORITHM

Provincial Screening Algorithm and Guidance for Management of Home Visits

Conduct a [PCRA](#) AND ask client if they or anyone in the household have a new onset or worsening of any of the following symptoms:

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS CRITERIA	*Signs and symptoms of respiratory virus infection may include, but are not limited to:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fever/chills <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue/malaise <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste or smell <input type="checkbox"/> Cough <input type="checkbox"/> Stuffy/runny nose <input type="checkbox"/> Conjunctivitis (pink eye) <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat/hoarse voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath/ breathing difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting or diarrhea for more than 24 hours <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of appetite (or poor feeding in an infant) <input type="checkbox"/> Skin rash of unknown cause <input type="checkbox"/> Myalgia (muscle aches and pains) <input type="checkbox"/> Arthralgia (joint pain)
	*SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE NEW OR WORSENING:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If client has pre-existing medical conditions (e.g., allergies, COPD) consider symptomatic if symptoms are new or worse than usual. If they are new or worse use the “YES” option. • If it is unclear or unknown whether the individual has new or worsening symptoms, use the “YES” option. • If Client unable to answer the above questions (e.g. poor historian, confusion, refuses to answer, non-verbal) use the “YES” option. 	



- *AGMP examples include:**
- CPAP / BIPAP machine
 - Use of nebulized meds (does not include administration of a metered dose inhaler [MDI])
 - Open deep tracheal suctioning
 - Manual bag mask ventilation, insertion and removal of laryngeal mask (LMA)

GUIDANCE

The focus of this document is to identify clients that may have an RVI (this includes COVID-19). The screening tool (algorithm) and guidance replaces COVID 19 screening tools. It is to be used with a PCRA to determine what personal protective equipment (PPE) should be worn when seeing all clients. **This document is intended to supplement clinical judgment, not supersede it.**

Definitions	
Respiratory virus	<p>The following viruses are included in the term respiratory viral illness (RVI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza • Adenovirus • Rhinovirus • Coronavirus (includes COVID) • Bocavirus • Enterovirus • Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) • Parainfluenza virus • Human Metapneumovirus <p>Respiratory viruses are a major cause of respiratory illness and are communicable through Droplet and Contact transmission.</p>
Respiratory virus season	<p>Respiratory virus season usually runs from the Fall (~September) until levels of respiratory virus cases returns to baseline again in the Spring</p>

- The screening can be done prior to a visit via phone or in person at the entrance to the home
- At the beginning of every client visit/interaction do a [Point of Care Risk Assessment \(PCRA\)](#) as well as the screening tool. Doing a PCRA will identify risks that the questions in the screening tool does not.
 - For example: Being exposed to blood, other body fluids like urine and feces. The PCRA tool will also tell you what PPE to use to protect yourself
- If visiting the client more than once in a single day, you don't have to re-screen, instead ask if anything has changed since the last visit. You must do your PCRA with every visit
- If you usually wear PPE during a visit (e.g.; bed bugs) and the client says "NO" to all of the screening questions, you still have to wear the usual PPE for that visit
- Avoid inviting symptomatic clients (i.e. cold/flu symptoms such as fever, new cough, runny nose, sore throat) into public service spaces. Offer home visit instead for necessary services
- If the client is symptomatic, direct them to contact Health Links – Info Santé at 204-788-8200 or toll-free at 1-888-315-9527 for further direction re: need for testing
- Clients with severe symptoms are directed to go to an emergency department, OR to call 911 and should tell staff their symptoms to ensure appropriate precautions are in place.

PPE for Droplet Contact Precautions:

- Medical mask
- Eye/face protection
- Gown
- Gloves

If the Client is having an AGMP:

- Wear all of the PPE listed above **AND**
- Wear a fit tested N95 instead of a medical mask

**Spatial separation of 2 meters (6 feet) is encouraged
(especially if you haven't donned your PPE yet)**

PPE RESOURCES

- [Routine practices](#) and [droplet/contact precautions](#)
- How to [don](#) and [doff](#) PPE
- [Disinfecting eye protection SOP](#)

SUPPLIES

PPE "TO GO" Bag

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gown | <input type="checkbox"/> Disinfectant wipes (IP&C/Facility Approved) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves | <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol based handrub |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical mask | <input type="checkbox"/> Self sealing bag for frame of eye protection if it is reusable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eye protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Trash bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> N95 respirator (ensure it is the type you were fit tested for) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bag for coat |

If the client would like an explanation about why PPE is being worn during the visit, the reason is: "It is a requirement of Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health. Wearing PPE is for both your safety and the safety of the healthcare worker"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DONNING AND DOFFING PPE FOR HOME VISITS

DONNING PPE when the screening has not been done prior to visit

1. Enter the home
2. As much as possible, stay at least 2 meters (6 feet) away from the client and household members
3. Complete the screening tool
4. Do a PCRA
5. Perform hand hygiene
6. Don the PPE indicated by the screening tool or follow Routine Practices only
7. If following Routine Practices only, wear PPE if it is indicated by your PCRA

DONNING PPE when it is known the client has symptoms of or confirmed to have an RVI

1. **BEFORE** entering the client home or suite:
 - Perform hand hygiene
2. **BEFORE** entering the home or suite, **DON**:
 - Medical mask OR
 - Fit tested N95 respirator if there is/will be an AGMP
 - Eye/Face Protection
3. Enter the home or suite
4. If a coat is worn:
 - Remove coat and place in designated bag
5. Perform hand hygiene
6. Don gown (tie securely in the back)
7. Don gloves (pull the cuff of the gloves over the cuff of the gown)

DOFFING PPE

1. **BEFORE** leaving the home/suite:
 - Take out and open up the trash bag
 - Remove gloves and discard into trash bag
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Remove gown and discard into trash bag.
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - If coat worn, remove from bag and discard bag, put coat on
2. **AFTER** exiting the home/suite:
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Remove eye protection. If frame is reusable, only remove lens and discard into trash bag. If frame is not reusable or visibly soiled, discard into trash bag
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Clean and disinfect frame with disinfectant wipes provided in the PPE "TO GO" bag
 - When frame is dry, store in a clean/dry plastic self sealing bag
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Remove mask or N95 respirator and discard into trash bag
 - Perform hand hygiene