



Infection Prevention & Control Guidance: Protocol for Management of Patients Who Refuse COVID-19 Testing – All Phases

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Protocol for Management of Patients Who Refuse COVID-19 Testing

Clinical Scenario	Strategy	Modification
Admission Testing*	<p>Single room preferable for symptomatic patients. Isolate following Droplet/Contact precautions X 10 days.</p> <p>If AGMP Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR)/ Negative Air Space/ single room with door closed following Full precautions.</p>	As a last resort, when no other option bedspace isolation** following Droplet/Contact precautions x 10 days.
Outbreak Unit	<p>Bedspace isolation** for asymptomatic close contacts*** following Droplet/Contact precautions for 7 days from last date of exposure.</p> <p>If AGMP AIIR/Negative Air Space/single room with door closed following Full precautions.</p>	Single room preferable for symptomatic patients. Isolate following Droplet/Contact precautions for 10 days.
Exposure to COVID-19	<p>Bedspace isolation** for asymptomatic close contacts*** (who require surgery) following Droplet/Contact precautions for 7 days from last date of exposure.</p> <p>If AGMP AIIR/Negative Air Space/ single room with door closed following Full precautions.</p>	Single room preferable for symptomatic patients. Isolate following Droplet/Contact precautions for 10 days.
Pre-operative Testing	<p>Symptomatic/close contacts*** will be managed following Full precautions in regular OR theatre if surgery cannot be delayed and an AGMP is anticipated.</p> <p>Refer to IPC Guidance OR Theatres Decision Pathway - All Phases.</p> <p>Manage Patient following Droplet/Contact precautions before and after procedure.</p> <p>If patient admitted refer to COVID-19 Testing Algorithm.</p>	<p>Asymptomatic patients – Precautions may be modified to routine procedures after risk assessment by surgical team.</p> <p>If patient admitted refer to COVID-19 Testing Algorithm.</p>
Inpatient with New Onset Symptoms	<p>Single room preferable for symptomatic patients. Isolate following Droplet/Contact precautions X 10 days.</p> <p>If AGMP AIIR/Negative Air Space/ single room with door closed following full precautions.</p>	As a last resort, when no other option bedspace isolation** following Droplet/Contact precautions x 10 days.

*Refer refer to [COVID-19 Testing Algorithm](#).

** When possible, avoid placing patients who refuse testing in the same room with patients who, if they were to become infected, would be at high risk for complications or who may facilitate transmission (e.g., elderly, patients with cardiopulmonary disease, immunocompromised, unvaccinated).

*** A close contact is defined as a person who has had prolonged close contact (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with an infected person (from two days before to ten days after the person's symptom onset date or specimen collection date).