COVID-19 Testing Follow-Up Algorithm for Inpatient

Patient tested for COVID-19 in the hospital

- **POSITIVE**
  - Provider will inform the patient
  - COVID Team and Inpatient Case Management workup the patient
  - Review UHS treatment algorithm
  - Screen for ACT Remdesivir to see if patient is eligible
  - Patient is ready for discharge
  - Inpatient Case Manager hands-off to Outpatient Case Manager
  - COVID Team/Outpatient Case manager will follow-up with the patient 24/48/72 hours after discharge
  - Better/Same: Schedule 7/14/28 day follow-up
  - Worse: Refer to COVID attending
    - Using clinical judgement see if further treatment is necessary
      - Further treatment necessary: NO - Schedule 7/14/28 day follow-up
      - Further treatment necessary: YES - Send patient to either ED or ExpressMed and notify COVID contact that they are coming in

- **NEGATIVE**
  - Provider will inform the patient
  - Schedule 7/14/28 day follow-up

Revised 4/2/2020

University Health System
UT Employee gets tested for COVID-19

Test results

POSITIVE
UT Employee Health Provider will inform the patient about result, advise to self-isolate and give follow-up info

UT Employee Health Nurse will handoff to UHS Outpatient RN Case Manager
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NEGATIVE
UT Employee Health Nurse will inform the patient

UT Employee Health Nurse will handoff to UHS Outpatient RN Case Manager

UHS Outpatient RN Case Manager will follow-up with the patient in 24/48/72 hours

BETTER/SAME
Schedule 7/14/28 day follow-up

WORSE
Refer to COVID attending

Using clinical judgement see if further treatment is necessary

Further treatment necessary

NO
Schedule 7/14/28 day follow-up

YES
Send patient to either ED or ExpressMed and notify COVID contact that they are coming in

COVID-19 Testing Follow-Up Algorithm for UT Employees

Revised 4/2/2020

University Health System
48-72 Hour Positive COVID-19 Testing Follow-Up Scripting for RN Case Managers

All Follow-Ups:
- How are you feeling?
  - Do you feel the same, worse or have you improved?
  - Are you currently still having symptoms? If so, please describe your symptoms. If no, when did your symptoms resolve?
- Who is your PCP? At which clinic?
  - SHM UHS provider or call the outside clinic if patient is having trouble getting through...
- Do you have any questions about COVID-19?
  - Educate using CDC scripted guidelines (attached below)
- Allow patient time to express their fears and personal experience.
  - May direct to Spiritual Care if needed.
- For further questions after hours call Nurse Link at 210-358-3000.
- For worsening symptoms (difficulty breathing), please call EMS or go to the nearest ER.
- Questions from patients are usually about:
  - Family exposure
  - When they can see family again
  - Returning to work
  - Medications
  - If getting COVID-19 again is possible
  - Not having a PCP
  - If it’s not COVID-19 positive then what virus is it?
  - If feeling better, is relapse possible?

For IP and OP Follow-Ups:
- Have you followed up with your PCP for a telephone/video visit? (PCP can provide further education/management/monitoring)

For UHS Employee Follow-Ups:
- Have you followed up with Employee Health? (I’m finding that residents usually do not follow up with their PCP)
What to do if you have confirmed or suspected Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

If you are sick and have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or suspected to have COVID-19 because you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Symptoms of COVID-19
The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough and shortness of breath. Some people have other symptoms to include sore throat, nausea, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell. If you have been exposed to someone with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 and are experiencing fever with either cough or shortness of breath, you might have COVID-19. You can contact your doctor to see if you need to be tested. If you have tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected to have COVID-19 but are not tested, you should follow the below instructions.

Stay home except to get medical care
You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home
People: As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Animals: You should restrict contact with pets and other animals while sick. When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick; if you must care for your pet, wash your hands before and after you interact with pets and wear a facemask.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor
If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider’s office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask
You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) or pets and before you enter a healthcare provider’s office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not be in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes
Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined
trash can; immediately clean your hands as described below.

**Clean your hands often**

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water is preferred if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

**Avoid sharing personal household items**

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people or pets in your home. After using these items, they should be washed thoroughly with soap and water.

**Clean all “high-touch” surfaces every day**

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

**Monitor your symptoms**

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., difficulty breathing). Before seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider’s office to keep other people in the office or waiting room from getting infected or exposed.

**Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department to discuss your situation.**

If you have a medical emergency and need to call 911, notify the dispatch personnel that you have, or may have COVID-19. If possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive.

**Discontinuing home isolation and returning to work**

If you recently had symptoms that required you to stay home, and did not get tested for COVID-19, you may return to work seven (7) days after your symptoms began AND you have been symptom-free for 72 consecutive hours.

If you were tested for COVID-19 and the results of that test were negative, you may return to work when you have been symptom-free for 24 hours.

If you were tested for COVID-19 and the results of that test were positive, you may return to work seven (7) days after your symptoms began AND you have been symptom-free for 72 consecutive hours.