Screening and Management for Suspected Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Intake/Triage Screening Tool

Travel History- If patient has respiratory symptoms (cough, fever) ask about travel:

* Travel anywhere outside of NOVA SCOTIA within 14 days of onset of illness;
* Close contact (2 meters face to face for ≥ 15 minutes) with a suspected/confirmed case of 2019-nCoV
* In the past 14 days, have you been in close contact with someone with fever and/or new onset or exacerbation of cough who has travelled outside of NOVA SCOTIA or within 14 days prior to their onset of illness

Symptoms- Does the patient have:

* Fever (over 38 degrees Celsius) AND/OR
* New onset of (or exacerbation of chronic) cough or breathing difficulty

IF YES- Place mask on patient, patient to perform hand hygiene and place in private room with door closed. Notify IPAC at 470-6937 (can leave message). For questions, contact Infectious Diseases on call through hospital switchboard.

COVID 19 testing NP swab or NPA:

* Select 'MIC' as the category
* Enter 'RSVFLU'
* Add in comments: 'Novel Coronavirus COVID-19'
* If you also wish to have RSV/FLU run on the sample in addition to COVID-19 testing, please put "COVID-19 and RSVFLU" in the comments section.

Infection Prevention and Control Measures:

* Ask patient to wear a procedure mask, perform hand hygiene and ensure assessed in a timely manner AND place in a private room with door closed.
* Initiate CONTACT and DROPLET PRECAUTIONS (Gloves, gowns, procedure/surgical mask and eye protection (face shield, goggles or mask with visor) when within 2 meters of patient. Visitors should be limited and must follow the additional precautions in place while in room.
* Aerosol- generating medical procedures (e.g. nasopharyngeal aspirate-NPA, suctioning, BiPap, trach care, aerosol or nebulized medications, bronchoscopy or inducing sputum) should be performed in AIRBORNE ISOLATION ROOMS, and only if medically necessary. The number of healthcare workers present should be limited and a fit tested respirator N95 mask should be worn in addition to all other PPE including eye protection by all persons present.
* Test for COVID-19 - using protocol for lab testing and specimen handling for patients suspected of infection with the novel coronavirus. Call the microbiologist on call with any questions.