Hamilton Health Sciences

Out-Patient Areas COVID-19 Quick Reference:

Who needs COVID-19 testing?

Symptomatic Out-Patients

1. Health care workers and staff working in health care facilities
2. Resident and staff in long term care facilities, retirement homes, residential housing and group homes, jails, shelters and homeless
3. Members of remote, isolated, rural and/or indigenous communities
4. Patients with co-morbidities putting them at risk for complications of COVID-19 or influenza

Asymptomatic Patients
Any individual that request testing

Refer testing Guidelines for more information Which Test and When

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

Fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, headache, muscle aches, nausea, diarrhea.

Outbreaks and patients in self-isolation:

Admitted Patients from other healthcare facilities units/areas that are in **COVID-19 outbreak or those in home self-isolation** must be placed **in Droplet Contact Precautions for 14 days** since last exposure or until discharge

What do we do if an Out-Patient meets the above criteria?

Triage/Reception:

1. No PPE required if able to maintain 2m spatial distance or separation by physical barrier, otherwise use Droplet Contact precautions
2. Instruct the patient and accompanying household member, to clean hands with alcohol based hand rub and put on a surgical/procedure mask
3. Put patient in Droplet Contact Precautions in a private room with the door close, if not possible segregate in area 2 meters away from other patients
4. If providing direct care, put on appropriate PPE (surgical/procedure mask, gloves, gown, eye protection)
5. Notify Infection Prevention and Control via paging for consultation
6. Complete discharge clean as per Infection Prevention and Control in Ambulatory Care protocol