

COVID-19 ED/UC ALGORITHM

Note: latest updates will appear in blue

Maintain spatial separation (6 feet/2 meters). Provide patient medical mask to wear. Instruct patient to clean hands with alcohol based hand rub. Ask the following:

EXPOSURE CRITERIA	In the past 14 days have you: <input type="checkbox"/> Returned from inter-provincial travel within Canada AND are not fully vaccinated*? <input type="checkbox"/> Returned from travel outside Canada AND are not fully vaccinated*? <input type="checkbox"/> Had exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19 where medical PPE not worn? <input type="checkbox"/> Had exposure in laboratory working with COVID-19 specimens where medical PPE not worn?		
HISTORY CRITERIA	In the past 14 days have you been <u>required to self-isolate</u>? If so, why? <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 positive <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 exposure (document if/when specimen collected) <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 symptoms (document if/when specimen collected) <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting COVID-19 test results <input type="checkbox"/> Live with/contact with a household member who has been required to self-isolate either due to testing positive for COVID-19, travel or because of close contact with a case		
SIGNS AND SYMPTOM CRITERIA	ONE symptom in Category A	OR	TWO or more symptoms in Category B
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fever > 38 or subjective fever/chills <input type="checkbox"/> cough <input type="checkbox"/> sore throat/hoarse voice <input type="checkbox"/> shortness of breath/breathing difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> loss of taste or smell <input type="checkbox"/> vomiting or diarrhea more than 24hrs		<input type="checkbox"/> runny nose <input type="checkbox"/> muscle aches <input type="checkbox"/> fatigue <input type="checkbox"/> conjunctivitis <input type="checkbox"/> headache <input type="checkbox"/> skin rash of unknown cause <input type="checkbox"/> nausea or loss of appetite <input type="checkbox"/> poor feeding (in an infant)
Unable to obtain answers to above questions (e.g. unconscious or delirious patient)? If so, treat as ORANGE.			

YES to any of the above

Yes to 1 Symptom in Category B

No to all of the above

Droplet and Contact Precautions with Airborne Precautions if aerosol generating medical procedure (AGMP)

- If not able to isolate immediately, move into a designated segregated waiting area

Droplet and Contact Precautions

- If AGMP, [as per Shared Health protocol](#).

Routine Practices

- Additional precautions (AP) as indicated (e.g. MRSA+)
- Identify isolation requirements (if applicable) in EDIS ISO type column
- If AGMP, [as per Shared Health protocol](#).

- Identify isolation requirements (if applicable) in EDIS ISO type column
- Test for COVID if symptomatic or asymptomatic and yes to exposure or history criteria. Clearly mark req as COVID suspect. Indicate testing in EDIS COVID column.

Patient Zone	Red <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID positive 	Orange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID suspect OR • COVID negative during this illness presentation AND exposure history within 14 days 	Green <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No known exposure and clinical presentation suggests non-COVID diagnosis OR • COVID negative during this illness presentation AND no clinical COVID concerns OR • COVID positive and deemed recovered in last 90 days by IP&C or Public Health
Admitting	To dedicated red zone room/unit	• Do not cohort. Private room.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on clinical presentation and requirement for other AP (e.g., MRSA +) • Perform admission COVID swab
Not Admitting	Provide fact sheet to self-isolate at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if YES to Exposure or History criteria AND COVID result negative maintain self-isolation for 10 days AND symptoms have resolved for 24 hours (may need to isolate > 14 days) • if NO to Exposure or History criteria AND COVID result negative – maintain self-isolation until symptoms have resolved for 24 hours (isolate may be < 10 days) • Provide fact sheet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no self-isolation is required • if symptoms develop, advise to complete the online COVID screening tool or call Health Links - Info Santé before going to UC/ED or call 911 if an emergency

Note: Essential medical escorts/visitors may be permitted in certain circumstances. If entry to ED/UC is approved by provider, escort/visitor must be screened. Adherence to Medical Mask use is required.

*Fully vaccinated individuals are those who have received both doses (any combination) of an approved two dose COVID-19 vaccine (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna), OR a single dose of an approved single dose COVID-19 vaccine (Janssen/Johnson & Johnson) with more than 14 days having passed since the second dose (or approved sole dose) was received.

Change Log:

January 6, 2021

1. Change in isolation time from 14 days to 10 days

December 24, 2021

1. updated to define “required to self-isolate”; removed requirement to isolate if coming from specific countries.

Dec. 6, 2021

1. Updated Exposure section with return from international travel to countries requiring self-isolation/quarantine. Additional countries will be added as they are announced. The algorithm and notification of change in country list will be distributed via COVID-19 Daily Updates email.

Aug. 6, 2021

1. Screening question modified to confirm vaccination status for those who have returned from travel outside of Canada. Please note: quarantine continues to be required for many travelers entering Canada, including: all unvaccinated travelers (including Canadians and Americans) as well as foreign nationals regardless of vaccination status. [Mandatory quarantine or isolation – Travel restrictions in Canada – Travel.gc.ca](#)