Algorithm for the Management of Suspected COVID-19 Cases in CARPHA Member States

Triage: recognize and sort all patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) or Influenza-like Illness (ILI) at first point of contact with health care system (such as the emergency department). Consider COVID-19 as a possible etiology of SARI under certain conditions. Triage patients and start emergency treatments based on disease severity.

Fever or Respiratory Illness

Recent close contact with persons suspected to have COVID-19 or recent exposure to locations with suspected or documented COVID-19 cases

- Yes
  - Begin COVID-19 isolation precautions, initiate preliminary workup, treat as clinically indicated, and notify health department
  - Perform laboratory COVID-19 testing (qPCR)
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Alternative diagnosis confirmed
  - Radiographic evidence of pneumonia
  - Consider alternative diagnosis and treat as clinically indicated
  - Discontinuation of SARI isolation precautions until laboratory diagnosis confirms or not COVID-19
  - Radiographic evidence of pneumonia
  - Consider discontinuing SARI isolation precautions
  - Continue SARI isolation precautions until 14 days following resolution of fever given respiratory symptoms are absent or resolving
  - Hospitalized with radiographic evidence of pneumonia
  - Yes
  - Treat as clinically indicated

- No
  - Consider alternative diagnosis
  - Symptoms improve or resolve
  - Discontinue isolation precautions
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Consider discontinuing COVID-19 isolation precautions

COVID-19 Suspected \* \* \*

- Yes
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions: 
  - Alternative diagnosis confirmed
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions
  - Alternative diagnosis confirmed
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions

- No
  - Consider alternative diagnosis and treat as clinically indicated

Suspected COVID-19 \* \* \* \*

- Yes
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions
  - Alternative diagnosis confirmed
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions
  - Alternative diagnosis confirmed
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Discontinuing isolation precautions

- No
  - Consider alternative diagnosis
  - Symptoms improve or resolve
  - Discontinue isolation precautions
  - Laboratory confirmation of COVID-19
  - Consider discontinuing COVID-19 isolation precautions

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