SUSPECTED OR COVID POSITIVE RESIDENT

Watch out for early signs:
- Change in Resp Rate; Count for 60secs
- Monitor O2 saturations and observe for any decrease
- New confusion or increased confusion or mental status

Know:
- Person is presenting with;
  - Altered respiratory status
    - New or worsened cough
    - New or worsening shortness of breath
    - New or increased sputum
  - Altered Mental Status
    - New signs or symptoms of increased confusion/delirium
    - Decreased level of consciousness
    - Inability to perform usual activities (due to mental status change)
    - New or worsening agitation
    - New or worsening delusions or hallucinations
  - Altered body temperature
    - Review COVID guidelines
    - PPE as per current HPSC recommendations

Advanced Care Planning
- Consider; any progressive illness including dementia
- Frailty
- Nearness to death
- Any recent deterioration
- Document and communicate

Advanced Care Plan (ACP) Status
- DNR
  - Palliative support and implementation
  - Manage symptoms
  - Support person and family
- FOR RESUS
  - ACP status for resuscitation, and condition deteriorates.
  - Contact GP/nursing home liaison /NAS as appropriate Local Hospital Liaison Service if available or National Ambulance service

COVID guidance
- Isolate the person, use PPE as recommended
- Assign staff to isolation area
- Contact GP to order testing
- Contact Public Health / Medical Officer
- Monitor vital signs and record
- Use escalation protocol AND clinical judgement
- Monitor Intake & Output as appropriate/per local policy
- Review medication
- Consider antibiotic therapy
- Evaluate signs and symptoms as appropriate for improvement/deterioration
- Refer to Advance Care Plan and anticipatory guidance
- Ensure supportive Care for Hypoxia, Pain, Fever and / or other symptoms
- Stay in regular contact with the resident’s family
- Set an observation protocol in place that can be managed relative to your available staff and skillset and needs of the deteriorating resident
- Be aware that deterioration can occur quite rapidly
- Consider need for additional senior nursing and / or medical review especially if considering transfer out of RCF
- Communicate using ISBAR
- Be prepared!

Discuss all ACP and COVID scenarios with families. Be aware that survival and outcomes with COVID-19 are poor in this patient group.

ISBAR LINK
- I Identify yourself and location
- S Situation
- B Background - tell story
- A Aseessment - what is going on?
- R Request - what you want