

COVID-19 Risk Assessment for Use by Ambulance Services when PRIMARY POINT of Contact



Please note background colour coding indicates infection control precautions as per right-hand panel

CLINICAL CRITERIA

Acute respiratory infection of any degree of severity (including at least one of:
fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$), shortness of breath or cough)

OR

Fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) of unknown cause with no other symptoms

Clinical judgement should be employed when assessing these criteria.
Be alert to the possibility of atypical presentation in patients who are immunocompromised.

NO → **COVID-19 UNLIKELY**

Transport to nearest **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

↓ YES

INITIAL ACTIONS

- ISOLATE PATIENT**
- Implement **STANDARD CONTACT & DROPLET PRECAUTIONS** and explain the **NOW and NEXT** to the patient
- SURGICAL MASK** for patients with respiratory symptoms (if tolerated)
- Advice is available from **PUBLIC HEALTH** if assistance with remote risk assessment is required.

If patient is **NOT** deemed well enough to remain at home, following risk assessment

TRANSPORT patient to nearest **RECEIVING HOSPITAL** AND **INFORM** the **RECEIVING TEAM** in **ADVANCE** of arrival

If patient is **deemed well enough** to remain at home, following risk assessment

Refer to **NAS** policy on Home Assessment of possible COVID-19 patients

Standard Precautions (SP)

CONTACT & DROPLET PRECAUTIONS:

- **Gloves**
- **Long-sleeved gown**
- **Eye protection**
- **Respiratory protection** (surgical mask sufficient but FFP2/3 masks may be used as available)
- **Respiratory hygiene** and cough etiquette

CONTACT DETAILS

NIU:
01-830 1122 (Ask for ID Consultant on call)

PUBLIC HEALTH MOH: (OOH 0818 501999)

HSE E: 01 635 2145
HSE M: 057 935 9891
HSE MW: 061 483 337
HSE NE: 046 907 6412
HSE NW: 071 985 2900
HSE SE: 056 778 4142
HSE S: 021 492 7601
HSE W: 091 775 200

HPSC:
01-8765 300
OOH: 086 7810393

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS IF ATTENDING PATIENT ON AIRCRAFT

AMBULANCE PERSONNEL should:

- In addition to Standard Precautions initiate **CONTACT & DROPLET PRECAUTIONS** before entering.
- DISTRIBUTE and COLLECT** Passenger Locator Cards for (i) Passengers in close contact with a possible case (ii) crew serving the person or that section.
- FORWARD** these Passenger Locator Cards directly to **local PUBLIC HEALTH** Medical Officer of Health (MOH)
- REQUEST CABIN CREW** to: (i) Broadcast the Travel Health Alert Announcement (ii) Distribute and collect Passenger Locator Card from ALL OTHER passengers and crew (iii) Distribute a copy of the Travel Health Alert Announcement leaflet to all passenger and crew (iv) Send completed Passenger Locator Cards to the local Public Health MOH
- ALL WELL PASSENGERS** should then be allowed to **DISEMBARK**, using the nearest exit.