

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.

INITIAL ACTIONS

1. **ISOLATE PATIENT**
2. Implement **STANDARD CONTACT & DROPLET PRECAUTIONS** and explain the **NOW and NEXT** to the patient
3. **SURGICAL MASK** for patients with respiratory symptoms (if tolerated)
4. 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**

NO

COVID-19 UNLIKELY

Transport to nearest **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS (SP)
See [here](#). Surgical masks should be worn:

1. When providing care to all patients (within 2 metres)
2. For all encounters, ≥ 15 minutes, with other HCWs in the workplace where a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained

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:

- A. In addition to Standard Precautions initiate **CONTACT & DROPLET PRECAUTIONS** before entering.
- B. **DISTRIBUTE and COLLECT** Passenger Locator Cards for (i) Passengers in close contact with a possible case (ii) crew serving the person or that section.
- C. **FORWARD** these Passenger Locator Cards directly to **local PUBLIC HEALTH** Medical Officer of Health (MOH)
- D. **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
- E. **ALL WELL PASSENGERS** should then be allowed to **DISEMBARK**, using the nearest exit.