

# ACNW COVID-19 Screening Ambulatory Care

This pathway is intended as a guide for staff/providers and is not intended to replace clinical judgement.

**SYMPTOMS** Acute onset of any of the following symptoms:  
 -Fever and/or chills -Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  
 -Cough -Fatigue  
 -Sore throat -Headache  
 -New loss of taste or smell -Congestion or runny nose  
 -Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea  
 -Muscle or body aches (not explained by exercise or activity)

**OR**

**EXPOSURE (Patients)** Close contact with person with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or person under investigation for COVID-19 in the past 14 days

**Adults visiting Arkansas Children's Clinics:** Take the adult's temperature. Ask if adult has any of the above symptoms **and/or** has been tested for COVID-19/been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in past 14 days.

**Proceed as normal**  
Provide mask for patients and visitors

YES

**Sick Visit ONLY**

- Place standard isolation mask on patient and family
- Place in private room with door closed if negative pressure room unavailable
- Provider to ensure patient is stable for clinic visit
- Limit number of staff taking care of patient
- Place patient on Special Respiratory Enhanced Contact Isolation (see yellow PPE box)
- Consider telemedicine visit if screens positive

**Well Child/Specialty/Ancillary**

**Patient tested positive for COVID-19**  
 -Schedule appointment 24 days\* from patient's positive test, provided both patient and accompanying caregiver have recovered\*\*  
 -Schedule appointment 30 days\* from patient's positive test if patient is immunocompromised or was hospitalized due to COVID-19 illness, provided both patient and accompanying caregiver have recovered\*\*

**Caregiver or other household contact tested positive for COVID-19**  
 -Schedule appointment 24 days\* from positive test, provided both patient and accompanying caregiver have recovered\*\*

**Patient/caregiver or member of patient's household exposed to non-household contact who tested positive for COVID-19**  
 -Schedule appointment 14 days\* from patient/caregiver/household member's last contact with positive individual, provided both patient and accompanying caregiver/household member have not developed symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19

\*Test or exposure date = day 0  
 \*\*Recovered (if applicable) = at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever-reducers and resolution/improvement in symptoms

**PLEASE NOTE:** For children who require a time-sensitive clinic appointment, please call Infection Prevention as needed. They can work with teams to mitigate risk while allowing the patient to be seen in a safe and timely manner.

TESTING REQUESTED

GO TO COVID-19 TESTING GUIDANCE FOR AMBULATORY CARE

**!**  
If pt. UNSTABLE call ED team leader for transfer to ED

**Caregiver Positive Screen**  
 If caregiver/family member screens positive, refer them to their Primary Care Provider  
**OR**  
 if caregiver is unstable, follow normal escalation procedure, including proper isolation.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Standard isolation mask for routine care
- N-95 mask (FIT test required) or CAPR (MAXAIR PAPR) for aerosol-generating (likely to produce cough) procedures
- Eye protection
- Gown
- Gloves

**General Aerosol Generating Procedures:**  
(wear an N-95/CAPR for all AGPs)

- Nasopharyngeal swab
- Tracheal intubation/extubation
- Suction before/after intubation
- Nebulizer treatments
- Manipulation of oxygen masks
- Manual ventilation
- Bronchoscopy
- Radiology-performed enemas (specifically air contrast enemas)
- Non-invasive ventilation
- Defibrillation
- Chest physiotherapy
- High flow oxygen
- Tracheostomy
- Manipulation of BIPAP mask
- Open endotracheal suction

# COVID-19 Testing Decision Making

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Clinical Features	Flu Testing	RPP Testing	COVID-19 Testing <sup>1</sup>
Asymptomatic – No exposure Discharging from ED	NO	NO	NO
Asymptomatic + Admission to Facility	NO	NO	YES
Asymptomatic + Exposure (at least 5 days after exposure)	NO	NO	YES
Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with mild symptoms (discharge)	YES	NO	YES
Symptoms* compatible with acute COVID-19 with moderate/severe symptoms (admission)	YES	As clinically indicated	YES

### Other Diagnostic Testing

- Portable CXR if clinically warranted
- CT not indicated unless concern for other process
- Consider other laboratory testing to guide clinical management

### \*Symptoms compatible with acute COVID-19

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

**!**  
Testing  
should  
be based on  
clinical suspicion

All patients  
being tested for  
COVID-19  
require  
quarantine

(1) Order ACH COVID-19 by RT-PCR. Collect (1) NP swab in viral transport media and send to main lab. If we run out of viral transport media, (1) NP swab in normal saline is acceptable for COVID-19 PCR testing; however the RPP will not be able to be performed.

### Discharge

- Review follow-up recommendations
- Supportive care including hydration and antipyretics
- Quarantine instructions, including duration
- Process for revisit

[CDC home care guidance -English version](#)  
[CDC home care guidance-Spanish version](#)

Patient too ill for outpatient evaluation and treatment

Transfer to Emergency Department

- Ensure proper isolation protocol is followed
- Transfer to Emergency Department