

BILH COVID-19 Definitions and Isolation Precautions in the AMBULATORY CLINIC or URGENT CARE/ED Setting

COVID-19 Status	Personal Protective Equipment Requirements				Priority for Rooming/Visit in Designated Location ²	NPIR ³ or HEPA ⁴ for high risk or procedure of potential concern ¹
	Surgical Mask	N95 Respirator (Disposable or Reusable)	Eye Protection	Gown & Gloves		
Asymptomatic <i>and</i> no known exposure⁵ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients who are <i>not</i> getting tested for COVID-19 any reason Patients getting tested for COVID-19 for screening purposes when the test is being collected or is pending 	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	No	No
COVID-19 Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any patient with a negative COVID-19 PCR, who is no longer a COVID-19 Suspect Asymptomatic patient with a negative screening test result 	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	No	No
COVID-19 Quarantine Patients with a confirmed COVID-19 exposure ⁵ who are EITHER asymptomatic OR COVID-19 PCR negative. See Discontinuation of Precautions in patients on COVID-19 Quarantine .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes Prioritize rooming; not necessary to be seen in designated COVID area	Yes (if available)
COVID-19 Suspect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symptomatic patients suspected of having COVID-19 Patients with a persistent clinical concern for COVID-19 despite negative PCR or home antigen results 	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (if available)
COVID-19 Positive⁶ Includes patients who do NOT meet criteria for discontinuation of isolation for patients with COVID-19 (immunocompetent and immunocompromised) and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive COVID-19 PCR, or Symptoms and a positive home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria 	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (if available)
Prior COVID-19⁶ Patients who were COVID-19 Positive AND meet the discontinuation of precautions in patients with COVID-19 until 90 days after COVID-19 diagnosis (first positive COVID-19 PCR, home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria or clinical diagnosis)	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	No	No

¹High risk procedure or procedure of potential concern: See [updated BILH Interim Categorization of Procedures by Risk of Transmission of COVID-19](#)

²Priority for rooming/visit means taking a patient back to a room as soon as one is available or in providing care in a [designated COVID care location](#)

³NPIR=Negative pressure isolation room

⁴HEPA=High efficiency particulate air filter

⁵Exposure defined as one of the following: 1) confirmed exposure to someone they live with who was diagnosed with COVID-19, 2) exposure (within 6 feet of an person with confirmed COVID-19 for a cumulative total of at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the confirmed positive contact is isolated) **regardless of whether patient was wearing a mask** (excludes contact with healthcare personnel wearing appropriate PPE), or 3) patient on home quarantine prior to clinical encounter by order of Department of Public Health

⁶If a patient experiences [rebound of COVID-19 symptoms](#) after improvement (generally 2-8 days after initial recovery, with or without antiviral treatment), place the patient back on isolation and return to COVID-19 Positive status. The start date for isolation should be reset to that of new symptom onset.