



BILH COVID-19 Definitions and Isolation Precautions: INPATIENT

Whenever possible, patients anticipated to receive [any high risk procedure or a procedure of potential concern](#)¹ should be placed in a private room, regardless of COVID-19 Status, with door closed during procedure

COVID-19 Status	Personal Protective Equipment Requirements				Can this patient be cohorted?	NPIR ³ or HEPA ⁴ for high risk procedure or procedure of potential concern ¹
	Surgical Mask	N95 Respirator (Disposable or Reusable)	Eye Protection	Gown & Gloves		
Asymptomatic <i>and</i> no known exposure² <i>Includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients getting tested for COVID-19 for screening purposes or admission while the test is being collected or is pending 	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	Yes <i>Can cohort with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymptomatic Negative Prior COVID-19 	No
COVID-19 Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any patient with a negative COVID-19 PCR, who meets criteria for Discontinuation of Precautions for Hospitalized Patients with Suspected COVID-19 Asymptomatic patient with a negative screening or admission test result (not meeting COVID-19 Quarantine Status) 	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	Yes <i>Can cohort with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymptomatic Negative Prior COVID-19 	No
COVID-19 Quarantine <i>Patients with a confirmed COVID-19 exposure² who are EITHER asymptomatic OR COVID-19 PCR negative</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (Private room required <u>until</u> meets discontinuation of quarantine)	Yes (when available)
COVID-19 Suspect⁵ <i>Includes:</i> <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 results 	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (Private room required)	Yes (when available)
COVID-19 Positive⁶ <i>Includes patients who do NOT meet criteria for discontinuation of isolation for patients with COVID-19 (immunocompetent and immunocompromised) and:</i> <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 <i>Can cohort with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Prior COVID-19 	Yes (priority when available)
Prior COVID-19⁶ <i>Patients who were COVID-19 Positive AND meet the criteria for discontinuation of isolation for 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)</i>	Yes	No (Except during High Risk Procedures or Procedures of Potential Concern¹)	Yes	No	Yes <i>Can cohort with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Asymptomatic Negative Prior COVID-19 	No

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

²Exposure 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 a 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 patient is isolated), **regardless of whether the patient was wearing a mask** (excludes contact with healthcare personnel wearing appropriate PPE), or 3) on home quarantine prior to admission/transfer by order of Department of Public Health

³NPIR=Negative pressure isolation room, ⁴HEPA=High efficiency particulate air filter

⁵If clinical suspicion remains for COVID-19 despite negative tests, continue use of precautions while additional evaluation is pursued.

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.