

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

Note that Personal Protective Equipment should always be used as indicated for Transmission-based precautions for other organisms, when indicated, and for Standard precautions (when at risk of splash or spray), even if not indicated specifically for COVID-related care as below.

COVID-19 Status	Personal Protective Equipment Requirements				Priority for Rooming/Visit in Designated Location ¹
	Surgical Mask	N95 Respirator (Disposable or Reusable)	Eye Protection	Gown & Gloves	
Asymptomatic <u>and</u> no known exposure² <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients who are <u>not</u> getting tested for COVID-19 for any reason 	No	No	No	No	No
COVID-19 Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any patient with a negative COVID-19 viral test³, who is no longer a COVID-19 Suspect 	No	No	No	No	No
COVID-19 Quarantine Patients with a confirmed COVID-19 exposure ² . See Discontinuation of Precautions in patients on COVID-19 Quarantine .	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
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
COVID-19 Positive³ 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 A positive home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria 	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prior COVID-19⁴ Patients who were COVID-19 Positive AND meet the criteria for discontinuation of isolation for patients with COVID-19 (immunocompetent and immunocompromised) until 90 days after COVID-19 diagnosis (first positive COVID-19 PCR, home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria or clinical diagnosis)	No	No	No	No	No

¹ Priority for rooming/visit means taking a patient back to a room as soon as one is available or providing care in a designated respiratory viral care location
² Exposure 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

³ COVID-19 viral test is either a COVID-19 PCR or a [COVID-19 home antigen test meeting acceptability criteria](#)

⁴ If 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.