

IPAC COVID-19 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - RESIDENTS

Question What do I do when a:	Answer
Resident returns back from a hospital admission	<p>Contact/droplet precautions must be initiated on arrival and the resident must remain in their room for a period of 14 days. Respiratory assessments must be completed twice a day (day and evening shift) unless otherwise indicated by a member of the IPAC team.</p> <p>NOTE: In order to be accepted for re-admission, the resident must be tested by the hospital and have a negative result for COVID-19 and be transferred back to Perley Rideau within 24 hours of receipt of the negative result.</p>
Resident returns back from a hospital emergency visit and was never admitted	<p>A respiratory assessment must be completed upon the resident's return to the Perley Rideau and then again during the next two shifts, for a total of three assessments. The need for additional precautions is dependant upon the discharge diagnosis. If a COVID-19 NP swab was taken in the hospital emergency room the resident will need to remain on contact droplet precautions until receipt of negative result.</p>
<p>Resident has an essential off-site appointment</p> <p>Resident has an essential off-site appointment and the unit is on outbreak and/or resident is on additional precautions for suspected COVID-19</p>	<p>All requests for essential appointments must be reviewed and approved by the Manager of Resident Care.</p>
Resident is requesting a short stay absence	Short-stay absences are currently on hold
<p>Resident returns back from an unauthorized trip off the premises (i.e. Walmart)</p> <p>Resident returns back from a short stay absence and the risk assessment indicates "high risk"</p>	<p>Contact/droplet precautions must be initiated on arrival back to the Perley Rideau. The IPAC team must be notified so they can complete a risk assessment. Respiratory assessments must be completed twice a day (day and evening shift) unless otherwise indicated by a member of the IPAC team. If the trip took place in the evening or on the weekend, please maintain the additional precautions until the risk assessment has been completed. NOTE: When on isolation, the only time the resident may leave their room is to smoke or for an essential off-site appointment. In this case, they must wear a mask to and from the smoking area and/or appointment.</p>
Resident is requesting a temporary absence (overnight absence)	Temporary absences are currently on hold

Question What do I do when a:	Answer
Resident develops respiratory symptoms which may be related to COVID-19	<p>Complete respiratory and nursing assessments and place the resident on contact/droplet precautions. Complete a COVID-19 NP swab (obtain swab from the first aid room and when completed place in fridge in first aid room)</p> <p>Email the IPAC team to indicate the additional precautions and NP swab.</p> <p>If it is a week-end or statutory holiday, it is the responsibility of the Ottawa Charge Nurse to check the first aid room fridge at 12:00 pm and notify Ottawa Public Health (OPH) there is an NP swab(s) awaiting pick up. OPH can be reached at 613-580-2424 ex 26325. NOTE: The charge nurse will need to provide OPH with the residents first & last name, date of birth and a call back extension.</p>
Resident is febrile with a temperature above 37.8	<p>If there is no obvious source of fever (i.e. urinary tract infection, infected wound, dehydration) place the resident on contact droplet precautions and complete a respiratory assessment. Complete a COVID-19 NP swab (obtain swab from the first aid room and when completed place in fridge in first aid room). Email the IPAC team to indicate the additional precautions and NP swab.</p> <p>If it is a week-end or statutory holiday, it is the responsibility of the Ottawa Charge Nurse to check the first aid room fridge at 12:00 pm and notify Ottawa Public Health (OPH) there is an NP swab(s) awaiting pick up. OPH can be reached at 613-580-2424 ex 26325. NOTE: The charge nurse will need to provide OPH with the residents first & last name, date of birth and a call back extension.</p>
Resident develops some atypical symptoms which may be related to COVID-19	<p>Complete respiratory and nursing assessments and if there is no diagnosis for these symptoms, place the resident on contact/droplet precautions and complete a COVID-19 NP swab (obtain swab from the first aid room and when completed place in fridge in first aid room). Email the IPAC team to indicate the additional precautions and NP swab. If it is a week-end or statutory holiday, it is the responsibility of the Ottawa Charge Nurse to check the first aid room fridge at 12:00 pm and notify Ottawa Public Health (OPH) there is an NP swab(s) awaiting pick up. OPH can be reached at 613-580-2424 ex 26325. NOTE: The charge nurse will need to provide OPH with the residents first & last name, date of birth and a call back extension.</p>
Resident has just passed away. Is there a need to complete a COVID-19 NP Swab?	<p>A COVID-19 NP swab is only required if the resident has not been tested in the past seven days. This information can be found in the resident's chart.</p> <p>If there is no evidence of a swab in the past seven days complete a COVID-19 NP swab (obtain swab from the first aid room and when completed place in fridge in first aid room). Email the IPAC team to indicate an NP swab was taken. If it is a week-end or statutory holiday, it is the responsibility of the Ottawa Charge Nurse to check the first aid room fridge at 12:00 pm and notify Ottawa Public Health (OPH) there is an NP swab(s) awaiting pick up. OPH can be reached at 613-580-2424 ex 26325. NOTE: The charge nurse will need to provide OPH with the residents first & last name, date of birth and a call back extension.</p>
Resident has tested positive for COVID-19.	Initiate Contact/droplet precautions for the resident and then notify the administrator on-call.
Physician orders a COVID-19 NP swab that is not indicated for a resident	Let the physician know why you believe a COVID-19 NP swab is not indicated.
Physician would like to discontinue additional precautions on a resident	Let the physician know that all additional precautions are discontinued by a member of the IPAC team. Do not discontinue precautions until advised by IPAC.

Question	Answer
What do I do when a: Visitor will not follow the visiting rules	Remind the visitor of the visiting rules and that failing to comply with visitation rules may result in them being restricted from visiting. Notify your supervisor/manager.

Common symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or greater)
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath (dyspnea)

Other symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- Sore throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- New olfactory or taste disorder(s)
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
- Runny nose, or nasal congestion – *in absence of underlying reason for these symptoms such as seasonal allergies, post nasal drip, etc.*

Other signs of COVID-19 can include:

- Clinical or radiological evidence of pneumonia

Atypical symptoms include

- Unexplained fatigue/malaise/myalgias
- Delirium (acutely altered mental status and inattention)
- Unexplained or increased number of falls
- Acute functional decline
- Exacerbation of chronic conditions
- Chills
- Headaches
- Croup
- Conjunctivitis (Pink eye)

Atypical signs can include:

- Unexplained tachycardia,
- Decrease in blood pressure
- Unexplained hypoxia (even if mild i.e. O2 sat <90% if atypical for the resident)