

\***Congregate Living** areas include: Affiliates, Mental Health and Addictions, Acute Rehab & Alternative Level of Care Units with dining and activity rooms

\*\*COVID-19 may present with a range of symptoms. Testing is indicated for those presenting with ANY of the following symptoms

1. **Influenza-Like Illness:** New or worsening cough with fever (>38 C) or a temperature above normal for that individual and one or more of the following:

- A. Sore Throat,
- B. Arthralgia (joint pain),
- C. Myalgia (muscle pain),
- D. Headache,
- E. Prostration (physical or/and mental exhaustion).

2. **Respiratory Infection:** Includes new/acute onset of any of the following symptoms:

- A. Cough (or worsening cough),
- B. Fever
- C. Shortness of breath
- D. Sore Throat
- E. Rhinorrhea (runny nose).

3. **Fever of Unknown Origin:** Fever (> 38 C) or a temperature that is above normal for that individual without other known cause. This does not include fevers with a known cause, such as urinary tract infection.

4. **Other atypical/non-specific symptoms associated with COVID-19:** Includes, but not limited to:

- A. Nausea/Vomiting, or Diarrhea,
- B. Abdominal Pain,
- C. Increased Fatigue or generalized weakness,
- D. Acute Functional Decline,
- E. Reduced alertness, reduced cognitive changes (particularly hypoactive delirium), and/or reduced mobility as a result of infection,
- F. Loss of smell and or/taste,
- G. Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- H. Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers or toes.

**Most Responsible Nurse**

**Does my resident/client meet COVID-19/Respiratory Illness/ Influenza Like Illness Case Definition?\***

NO

They do not meet the definition for possible COVID-19/Respiratory Illness/Influenza Like Illness, resident may still require Droplet Precautions

YES

**Droplet + Contact Precautions**

- Confine Ill resident
- Advise your Charge Nurse
- Collect a Nasopharyngeal swab ASAP (**Ensure labels and requisition indicate "LTCF"**)
- Contact MRP
- Obtain order from MRP
- Place resident in isolation with access to their own toilet. Consider private room for residents/clints highly suspect for COVID-19
- Complete Influenza Screening Tool

**Notify by Email:**

- Your ICP (Island Health)
- Communicable Disease Program (Affiliates)

NOTE: To contact Communicable Disease please send email to:  
-sihealthnurse@viha.ca  
-cihealthnurse@viha.ca  
-nihealthnurse@viha.ca

**Charge Nurse or Clinical Coordinator**

Confine ALL symptomatic residents/clients to their rooms on Droplet + Contact Precautions.

Roommates/exposed residents will be assessed by the most responsible nurse and placed on Droplet + Contact Precautions.

All residents should be assessed for new or worsening COVID-19 symptoms\*\* and have temperature checked:

- i) upon admission & discharge to/from facility
- ii) At least once daily and as clinically indicated

**Post Precaution signs for every resident on Droplet + Contact precautions**

Consult with ICP or CD program as required for clinical and outbreak guidance.

Nursing team to remain alert and continue monitoring all residents. Consult immediately with IPC/CD if any other symptomatic residents develop

Inform housekeeping need for precaution cleaning for affected rooms:

- i) For Island Health facilities, ICP will send requisition during regular weekday office hours
- ii) For Affiliate sites, refer to housekeeping guidelines for recommended practices

Consult with Most Responsible Provider (MRP)

Share clinical status of resident and determine whether further clinical monitoring and/or intervention is needed (See SBAR in *Island Health COVID-19 Response Protocol: LTCF*). Fax SBAR to MRP once conversation complete

Review the need to modify or stop AGMP if applicable. Consider alternate treatment where possible., otherwise Airborne Precautions indicated.

Discuss Notification to family or temporary substitute decision maker (TSDM)

Be alert to staff who develop illness

Staff with ILI, respiratory illness or fever should NOT come to work or go home immediately on start of symptoms. Staff with ILI should be instructed to contact Island Health for testing at 1.833.737.9377