

ED MANAGEMENT OF SUSPECTED COVID-19 PATIENT

Definition: **FEVER, COUGH, ANOSMIA**, headache, sore throat, malaise

IF PATIENT IS IMMUNOSUPPRESSED OR ON CHEMOTHERAPY TREAT FOR NEUTROPAENIC SEPSIS AS WELL

NEWS >5
Sats < 92%
RR >30
GCS <15

Yes to any

Transfer to BLUE RESUS

No

CXR

CXR not suggestive of COVID -19

CXR Suggestive of COVID-19 infection or sats <95% or NEWS 3-4

Manage as needed

COVID -19 still suspected

No

Yes

Yes

Patient feels unwell
NEWS >2
Sats <95%
Abnormal observations:
Pulse >90
Temp >37.8
RR > 20
>3% desaturation on 40 step desaturation test
High risk features

Request:

- ED orderset COVID -19
- Blood cultures if temp>37.5
- BHCG in women <50

Request:

ED orderset COVID -19
Blood cultures if temp>37.5
BHCG in women <50
CXR

Keep examination to a minimum.

Examine chest once if required and clean stethoscope after with clinell wipe

Consider admission if any of:

- NEWS >4
- Sats <95% or O₂ requirement
- Severe dyspnoea
- >10% pulmonary infiltrates on CXR
- RR >20
- CRP >30
- Temp >37.8
- Neutrophilia
- Day 6 or later of illness
- Troponin or CK elevated
- Representation with same illness
- If DDimer >2000 or clinical suspicion of PE consider CTPA
- High risk features

Maintain oxygen sats 92-96% (unless COPD)

If RR>30 or FiO₂ >0.4
Call ITU and consider need for optiflow or CPAP (see CPAP and intubation protocols) or intubation if FiO₂ ≥0.6

Consider proning

If dry, give fluid bolus 250mls and repeat if required. Maintenance fluid 1.5ml/kg/hr

Consider antibiotic therapy (see antibiotic protocol)

Give dexamethasone 6mg IV or PO

Monitor CBG in diabetics

In event of cardiac arrest refer to cardiac arrest protocol

Discharge home with advice leaflets and inform re clinical trials

No

If not requiring admission discharge home with sats probe, to return if sats <95%
Follow up call at 24 hours via ambulatory pathway
Consider thromboprophylaxis if meets criteria on protocol

No

High risk features include: Age 65+, under 65 and; COPD diabetes, pregnancy, IHD, 1BP, obesity, BAME, cancer, chemo, immunocompromised, learning difficulty.