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

Transfer to BLUE RESUS
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

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

Yes to any

No

Manage as needed

CXR not suggestive of COVID -19
COVID -19 still suspected

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

No

Discharge home with advice leaflets and inform re clinical trials

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

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

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

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

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

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