

Covid workflow in the Emergency Department

Patient arrives in the ED



Screen all presenting patients for:

1. ILI (Influenza like illness) symptoms
2. CLI (COVID like illness) symptoms
3. History of Covid
4. Recent completed or pending Covid test



Order the following for ill appearing ILI/CLI patients:

1. Rapid SARS-COV-2
2. CBC w/diff
3. CMP
4. Chest xray



To be admitted

Viral testing – order Respiratory Pathogen Panel

Guidelines for admission:

1. Hypoxia (*O2 less than 92% on 2L or 90% on room air*)
2. Symptomatic SOB (*resp rate >22*)
3. Heart rate >100
4. Sit/stand exertional O2 sat drop of 3% or more, or less than 90%, along with other significant comorbidities and/or significant chest xray findings
5. Risk factors for severe COVID:
 - Male
 - Age (60+)
 - African American
 - Obesity (BMI 30+)
 - DM/HTN
 - Heart disease
 - Renal disease
 - History of CHF, COPD, or asthma
 - Immunocompromised
6. Elevated inflammatory markers
7. Inability to isolate at home and keep high-risk individuals who live with the patient safe

If #7 is the only reason for admission, work with case management on potential alternate housing options.

Refer to the ACEP Covid19 Severity Tool



To be discharged

1. Viral testing – order Rapid Flu A/B/RSV
2. Discuss safe discharge plan
3. Explain return precautions