

# Emerging Infectious Disease (suspected COVID-19)

## Nursing Facility Resident Care Guidelines

### History for high suspicion of COVID-19

- Flu-like illness
- Confirmed COVID-19 cases in facility

### Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19


- Fever greater than 100.4°F
- Rhinorrhea/nasal congestion
- Productive cough
- Chills
- Weakness and/or flu-like symptoms
- Body aches

### Differential

- Cancer / tumors / lymphomas
- Medication or drug reaction
- Hyperthyroidism
- Heat-related emergency
- Meningitis
- Bacterial

Scene is an assisted living facility, skilled nursing facility, or residential rehabilitation facility?

No

Exit to the appropriate protocol 

Yes

### Universal precautions with proper PPE required.

- Surgical or N95 mask (as appropriate), impermeable gown, gloves, eye protection.
- Limit patient contact to one provider only if at all possible.
- All providers should attempt to maintain a distance of 6 feet or more from the patient when feasible and does not interfere with indicated patient care.

**B**

- Severe chest pain, or
- Obvious respiratory distress, or
- Syncope, altered mental status/acute neurological change, or
- Trauma/significant hemorrhage

Yes

No

### Perform assessment:

**B**

- Respiratory rate is between 8 and 20 bpm
- Pulse oximetry greater than 90% on room air or nasal cannula
- Heart rate greater than 50 bpm and less than 100 bpm
- Systolic BP greater than 100 mmHg and less than 180 mmHg

No to any

Exit to appropriate protocol and transport patient to preferred facility.

Yes to all



Notify Destination or Contact Medical Control



### Do not move the patient to the ambulance.

The patient will not be transported to the hospital unless determined as medically-necessary by a physician.

If the patient's physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner is at bedside, review this protocol with him or her. If that provider confirms patient transport to the hospital is medically-necessary, follow their request. Document the name and licensure of the provider in your patient care report.

Otherwise, nursing facility staff will assume care of the patient. The patient will remain on scene.

### PEARLS

**Recommended Exam: Mental status, skin, HEENT, heart, lungs, and neurological.**

Common signs and symptoms of COVID-19: Fever; cough, sore throat/body aches, fatigue, shortness of breath/difficulty in "catching my breath". Rhinorrhea (runny/stuffy nose) is uncommon for COVID-19, but may be present or usually found with other viral or bacterial upper respiratory infections.

**Do not intubate or give nebulized medications.**