General Mitigation Strategies

- Require negative tests

- Start patient vaccinations

- Group therapy/milieu changes: physical distancing, group size limits, high risk patients

- Visitor restrictions: hours, locations, vaccine-status, encourage video chat

- Additional air circulation/filters

- Telepsychiatry, reduce team sizes

- System for rapid transfer of symptomatic/positive patients

[1] Zhu Y, Chen L, Ji H, Xi M, Fang Y, Li Y. The Risk and Prevention of Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Infections Among Inpatients in Psychiatric Hospitals. *Neurosci Bull*. 2020;36(3):299-302. doi:10.1007/s12264-020-00476-9
[2] Benson NM, Öngür D, Hsu J. COVID-19 testing and patients in mental health facilities. *Lancet Psychiatry*. 2020;7(6):476-477. doi:10.1016/S2215-0366(20)30198-X
[3] Li L. Challenges and Priorities in Responding to COVID-19 in Inpatient Psychiatry. *PS*. 2020;71(6):624-626. doi:10.1176/appi.ps.202000166

Tested Triage Strategies

- There is limited evidence regarding the evaluation of specific best-practice mitigation strategies

- Some strategies with limited evidence include a three-space triage protocol [1,2] and a (two-space) COVID-specific psychiatric unit [3]

  - These strategies require space and staff for development, execution, and evaluation

[1] Brody BD, Parish SJ, Kanellopoulos D, Russ MJ. A COVID-19 testing and triage algorithm for psychiatric units: One hospital's response to the New York region's pandemic. *Psychiatry Research*. 2020;291:113244. doi:10.1016/j.psychres.2020.113244
[2] Brody BD, Shi Z, Shaffer C, et al. Universal COVID-19 testing and a three-space triage protocol is associated with a nine-fold decrease in possible nosocomial infections in an inpatient psychiatric facility. *Psychiatry Research*. 2021;302:114036. doi:10.1016/j.psychres.2021.114036
[3] Li L, Stanley R, Fortunati F. Emerging Need and Early Experiences With a COVID-Specific Psychiatric Unit. *PS*. 2020;71(8):873-873. doi:10.1176/appi.ps.71803