

DMHAS Facility Patient Screening Protocol For Coronavirus

3/16/2020

I. New Admissions (Inpatients and Outpatients)

- Patients will arrive in designated area.
- Triage nurse will meet and assess the patient at the designated area.
- Triage nurse will perform the following:
 - a. Infectious Disease Screen
 - b. Take the patient's temperature
 - c. Clinical evaluation for respiratory illness (Is the patient coughing or in respiratory distress?)
- If the patient is deemed medically cleared, the admission process will proceed per usual protocol.
- Following admission, check Temperature: Q shift (along with VS) x 72hours, then routine as usual – for inpatient and some outpatient; For Respite and the Transitional Residence Program, twice a day

- If the Infectious Disease Screen raises concern for coronavirus (screens positive), the triage nurse will proceed per the instructions provided on the infectious disease screen. In addition:
 - A. notify the MD and RN Supervisor of the positive screen, and properly don PPE to continue the assessment process in the designated (precaution) area. PPE for immediate response is stored in _____.
 - B. The MD will properly don PPE and conduct further patient assessment consistent with standard admission procedures.
 - C. The MD contacts the receiving hospital ED if hospital evaluation is deemed necessary, to inform them of the potential COVID-19 case.
 - D. Once PPE is donned these individuals should remain with the patient until transport occurs.
 - E. After transport occurs staff will doff PPE and perform personal hygiene, and housekeeping will complete terminal cleaning of the precaution area.

II. Patients Returning from Overnight Temporary Leave or Conditional Release:

- Patients will enter the building through normal entrance.
- Triage nurse (or trained staff) will be called to assess the patient at designated space.
- A triage nurse/trained staff will perform the following:
 - a. Infectious Disease Screen
 - b. Take the patient's temperature
 - c. Clinical evaluation for respiratory illness (Is the patient coughing or in respiratory distress?)
- If the patient is deemed medically cleared, the patient will proceed to his/her unit.
- If any screen (a, b or c) raises concern for coronavirus, the triage nurse/trained staff will proceed per the instructions provided on the Infectious Disease Screen.

III. Outpatient Follow up Visits

- Patients will arrive in designated area.

- Triage nurse/trained staff will meet and assess the patient at the designated area.
- Triage nurse/trained staff will perform the following:
 - a. Ask the patient to perform hand hygiene
 - b. Infectious Disease Screen
 - c. Take the patient's temperature
 - d. Clinical evaluation for respiratory illness (Is the patient coughing, sneezing or in having shortness of breath?)
- If patient is symptomatic (Fever 100F or higher, coughing, sneezing runny nose, shortness of breath)
 - a. Place a disposable mask on the patient (and on staff), over their mouth and nose.
 - b. Staff will perform hand hygiene
 - c. Ask permission to contact their Primary Care Physician or General Hospital ED for advice – patient may need to be transported to ED, the PCP's office or home
- Notify Licensed Independent Practitioner, Clinical Director, Site Director, and Infection Preventionist
- Follow Office/Vitals Room Disinfecting instructions.