

# Clinical Approach to Guide Evaluation of Patients with Symptoms of 2019-nCoV

For ED/Hospital Provider 3-17-20

**Patient presents with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection (fever and cough)**

**Mask patient immediately and put in separate room**

**Perform diagnostic tests as indicated (blood work, CXR, rapid flu test, etc.)**

**Patient requires hospitalization?**

**NO**

**YES**

**Priority Population<sup>1</sup>?**

**NO**

**YES**

- Test if other indication at discretion of provider
- If no indication for testing, instruct patient to isolate at home until at least 72 hours after resolution of fever and symptoms are improving

**Able to send specimens to LabCorp or Quest?**

**NO**

**YES**

- Collect NP swab and send specimens to Quest or LabCorp
- If not able to send specimens to commercial lab, call HCA to arrange testing of specimens at PHL

- Call OCHCA to approve testing
- Collect NP swab and refrigerate specimen
- PHL courier will pick up next business day (freeze specimen if collected Friday or Saturday)

- Collect NP swab and send to commercial lab
- Instruct patient to isolate at home pending test results

**Notify OCHCA if specimen positive**

## **1. Priority populations include:**

- Evidence of lower respiratory disease without alternative diagnosis
- Any resident of a senior living facility, including skilled nursing facilities or assisted living facilities.
- Close contacts\* to known COVID-19 cases
- Health care workers
- Persons who care for the elderly
- Persons experiencing homelessness

**\*Close contact** is defined as being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for over 2 minutes