

Recommendations for ambulatory healthcare COVID-19

Some primary care providers with access to appropriate PPE may wish to continue to see patients in the office who have respiratory symptoms.

For detailed information regarding the care of suspected COVID-19 patients in the ambulatory setting please see this link to the cdc:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html

Downloaded March 12, 2020

Here is one approach to consider:

- Avoid appointments when other patients will be present if possible especially neonates or at risk patients.
- Bring mask(s) to symptomatic patient and any symptomatic family members prior to entry
- Family brought immediately to designated room bypassing the waiting room and front desk by masked provider and the door is shut
- Preferred assessment is by video or telephone

In person assessment:

- Single provider enters room with either N-95 (preferred if available) or surgical mask, gown, gloves, and face protection
 - Visit is completed rapidly with patient masked except for oropharyngeal examination when considering GAS pharyngitis
 - No oropharyngeal or respiratory swabs are taken.
 - Patient discharged directly to vehicle with mask and required payment/insurance update/additional schedule etc. handled over the phone.
 - For suspected influenza or GAS pharyngitis antimicrobial medication is empirically prescribed.
- Environmental care
- Room and high touchpoints are thoroughly wiped down with hospital grade disinfectant by individual with gloves, gown, eye protection, and mask
 - Door marked and room closed for 60 minutes

**Please note that routine immunizations remain critically important for children's health, especially for younger children and those who are on a catch-up schedule. It is important to schedule these visits when there are not patients with respiratory symptoms in the office.*

Questions please call your providers office or 203-688-1700 YNHH COVID-19 hotline

These recommendations may change as the COVID-19 epidemiology evolves.