

Management of suspected case of nCoV-2019 (Wuhan novel coronavirus, WN-CoV): interim guidance for Emergency Department, v1.0 24/01/20

Possible case – for latest definition see note 1

Acute respiratory infection of ANY degree of severity (including at least ONE of: breathlessness, cough, sore throat)

AND

Within 14 days of the onset of illness, visited or lived in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, (which is located in China) OR contact² with a CONFIRMED case of nCoV-2019

Also consider whether there are risk factors for avian influenza³

Isolate the patient

Single room or cubicle with door closed; provide patient with a mask

Use appropriate PPE

FFP3 mask, eye protection, disposable gloves & full gown

Do not obtain any diagnostic samples yet or perform POCT

Quarantine all linen and waste⁴

Adults: contact duty CIU SpR

Bleep 7568 (Mon-Fri 9-5)

Via Switchboard at other times

Paediatrics: contact paediatric infectious diseases SpR Bleep

6124 (Mon-Fri 9-5), PID consultant via switch at other times.

Whether or not the patient requires admission, follow guidance on next page

Obtain diagnostic samples (when instructed by CIU/microbiologist)

Local sample set (separate bag, label bag 'local sample')

X1 viral throat swab (green)

PHE sample set (separate bag, label bag 'PHE sample')

X1 viral throat swab (green)

X1 yellow top blood

X1 purple top blood

X1 urine in sterile universal (not boric acid)

X1 stool (if possible)

Ensure all samples are labelled with patient name, DOB, MRN and sample type / site

Place bagged samples in further larger clear bag (i.e. double bagged)

CIU or paediatric team:

Inform Site team (bleep 6007)

Inform public health

Liaise with laboratory and duty microbiologist to arrange testing if indicated

Transfer samples to microbiology laboratory

DO NOT use pod system

Bring to pathology reception, ground floor, Jenner wing

Ring bell and specify 'urgent high risk microbiology sample'

Notify duty microbiology BMS (x5689 / SG394 out-of-hours)

**** Results may not be available for 48 hours ****

Notes:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases/investigation-and-initial-clinical-management-of-possible-cases-of-wuhan-novel-coronavirus-wn-cov-infection>
- Contact means living in same household, contact with body fluids, or prolonged contact <2 metres
- See PHE guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/avian-influenza-guidance-and-algorithms-for-managing-human-cases>
- Category A waste: seek advice from Infection Control / Estates

Admission and discharge of suspected case of nCoV-2019 (Wuhan novel coronavirus, WN-CoV): interim guidance, v1.0 24/01/20

- Many patients will not be very unwell so it is reasonable to discharge home with advice¹ if the patient can comply with instructions – but ensure public health have been notified before discharging any possible case or if a patient self-discharges
- If admission indicated, all possible cases (see definition on previous page) MUST be cared for in a negative-pressure side room
- For adults, currently this is CTICU
- For paediatrics, this is either Pinckney cubicle 2 or 4 or PICU (if required)
- If there are no suitable side rooms, the patient will need to be transferred to another hospital – this to be facilitated by CIU (adults) or paediatrics
- Ensure full respiratory precautions and PPE and quarantine (category A) of all linen and waste until nCoV is excluded (even if the patient is discharged)
- ANY confirmed case of nCoV should be transferred to Airborne High Consequence Infectious Disease Unit (adults: St Thomas' Hospital or Royal Free, paed: St Mary's) – see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/high-consequence-infectious-diseases-hcid#hospital-management-of-confirmed-hcid-cases>

Notes:

1. If the patient is not being admitted, advise them to go home by their own private transport (e.g. their own car), isolate themselves at home, abstain from work or social gatherings, avoid visitors, avoid public transport and if they become unwell to call NHS 111 for advice. Ensure accurate contact details are recorded in the event we need to contact the patient. If the patient cannot return by their own private transport they may need to be taken by ambulance – seek advice from Public Health England.