Suspected COVID-19 Process Example

Provider suspects a COVID-19 PUI

Notify Infection Preventionist

Implement appropriate isolation precautions (standard, contact, airborne, and eye protection) & Test patient for Influenza AND RVP

IMMEDIATELY CALL 24/7 KDHE EPIDEMIOLOGY HOTLINE 877-427-7317

Notify KDHE
Follow CDC’s Interim Guidance for Implementing Home Care

Is the patient appropriate for sheltering in place at home?

Collect and send necessary specimens to KHEL

Contact hospital and let them know PUI is coming

Place mask on patient and transport via private transportation if stable

Hospital staff to meet patient in parking lot and escort directly to isolation

YES

KDHE approves patient for testing

NO

YES

NO

Treat patient for respiratory illness/symptoms

Note: KDHE will provide specific instructions for this process!
Definition of a Person Under Investigation (PUI)*
Report any PUI to the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline at 1-877-427-7317 immediately

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Epidemiologic Risk</th>
<th>&amp;</th>
<th>Clinical Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History of travel from Hubei Province, China within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Fever* and lower respiratory illness (cough or shortness of breath)</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of travel from any country with a CDC Alert Level 2 or Warning Level 3 travel advisory+ within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Fever* and lower respiratory illness (cough or shortness of breath)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Close contact^ with a person that has laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 and developed symptoms within 14 days of contact</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Fever* or lower respiratory symptoms (cough or shortness of breath)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No source of exposure has been identified</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Fever with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza)</td>
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*Fever can be subjective or measured
*CDC travel advisories can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html
^Being within 6 feet for a prolonged period (10 minutes or longer) or having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

Testing for 2019-nCoV
Diagnostic testing for COVID-19 must be approved by KDHE.
Contact the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline for testing approval and specimen submission guidance.

Send specimens to Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL) unless otherwise directed. Testing for other respiratory pathogens should not delay specimen shipping to KHEL.

If a PUI tests positive for another respiratory pathogen, after clinical evaluation and consultation with KDHE, they may no longer be considered a PUI.

This process may change as more information becomes available on COVID-19.

Specimen Collection and Submission Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type and Collection Procedures</th>
<th>Shipping and Handling</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UPPER RESPIRATORY SPECIMEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nasopharyngeal (NP) and Oropharyngeal (OP) swabs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nasopharyngeal swabs</strong> -- Insert a swab in the nostril parallel to the palate. Leave in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions. Swab both nasal areas.</td>
<td>Transport device: Sterile leak-proof containers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oropharyngeal swab</strong> -- Swab the posterior pharynx, avoiding the tongue.</td>
<td>Transport: Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collect only using synthetic tip swabs (ex. Dacron, Nylon, Polyester) with non-wooden shaft.</td>
<td>Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C up to 72 hrs. If arriving at KHEL ≥ 72 hrs. after collection, freeze at ≤-70°C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place swabs immediately into sterile tubes containing 2-3ml viral transport media (VTM)</td>
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</table>
**If swabs are NOT in VTM they will be REJECTED**

Updated 3/11/20