


Guidance Document for COVID-19



Title: Priority COVID-19 Testing Process	Version #: 3
Pre-Approved for IMT: Operations Section Approved: Incident Manager Signature: 	Approval Date: March 10, 2021
<i>This document is intended to provide guidance to staff/professional staff during COVID-19</i>	

1. PURPOSE

To clarify expectations during COVID-19, related to priority COVID-19 testing process.

2. GUIDELINES (e.g. background, definitions, procedure, etc.)

Criteria for In-City Priority Testing (PHL & TBH Microbiology Dept. – Shared Model)
Admissions/Inpatients/Discharges, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> those being admitted (presumptive and non-presumptive including from the ED) those being discharged to a care facility those returning from a leaves (Forensic-AMH) admissions to other facilities in outbreak that impact patient flow
ED patients not being admitted but presumptive for COVID-19
Persons from First Nations / Inuit communities
Persons with no fixed address
Persons from other congregant living settings and institutions, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Homes Public shelters
Healthcare workers (HCWs) – (i.e TBRHSC, SJCG, Ornge) including their SYMPTOMATIC household member where the HCW is required to isolate pending test result.
Treatment Specific Testing. This includes but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute oncology patients requiring admission and/or Priority A cancer patients for initiation of urgent treatment Pre-operative Patients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> General anesthesia and/or AGMP (aerosol generating medical procedures) <input type="checkbox"/> Note: pre-op patients should present 5 days prior. All testing will be referred to PHOL in Thunder Bay. TAT is expected to be less than 3 days. <input type="checkbox"/> Cataract Surgery Renal dialysis patients Symptomatic mothers giving birth Code Stroke in preparation for Endovascular Thrombectomy (EVT) Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) Transesophageal Echocardiogram (TEE) Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)
Confirmation of prior result and Indeterminate results from the TBDHU
Deceased / autopsy
Outbreak investigations

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Lab Order process:

- **Order Mnemonic:**
 - In-house Testing: **COVRESP** (Orderable by TBRHSC staff, only)
 - PHL Testing: **COVID19PHL** (Orderable by SJCG and TBRHSC Lab Staff, only)
- Mandatory: a **PHL Form** MUST be fully and accurately completed
- Note: In-house and in-city ratio is determined at the discretion of the Microbiology department and is dependent on supply chain/inventory of Covid-19 testing kits, etc.

How to Request a Priority Test for a Symptomatic household member of a HCW:

1. When the HCW calls in (as per the department's typical process) due to a requirement to isolate until their Household member has a negative COVID-19 test result, the manager or designate will notify the Assessment Centre by fax: 807-623-6631.
2. The fax must include the name of the department, the name of the SYMPTOMATIC household member requiring a test and the phone number where to reach the individual requiring testing.
3. All efforts will be made to provide a rapid in-house/in-city test. However test collections that happen prior to the assessment centre receiving a fax will not be considered for rapid.