

COVID-19 Outbreak Declaration - Actions

Patient

Day of 2nd positive patient:

- 1) Close ward to admissions/transfers. Display closure posters.
- 2) Visiting to cease unless specific exceptions (EOLC).
- 3) Identify all patients (contacts) on the ward and patients who had been on the ward 48 hours before the date of the 2nd positive swab.
- 4) COVID swab all patient contacts as soon as positive patient moved.
- 5) Isolate patient contacts for minimum of 10 full days.
- 6) IPC team to add SEMA alert for each contact and provide contact letters to clinical area. IPC team to inform site team of closure.
- 7) Doctors to inform patients and/or NOK (including if discharged) re COVID exposure and document in medical notes.
- 8) Ensure, where medically possible, all patients wear surgical face-masks and patient hand hygiene is actively encouraged.
- 9) If empty bed spaces allow, space patients out within their bays.
- 10) IPC team will ask for additional environmental cleaning to be completed and orange waste stream to be implemented.
- 11) Initiate medium risk PPE (visors/encourage FFP3 use and Air filter machines (Filtrex) if appropriate). Open windows/provide blankets.
- 12) Reduce staff movement to other departments.

Negative Day 1

Positive Day 1

Re-swab all patient contacts at Day 3,5,7. In addition swab patients with symptoms at any point.

Move to red pathway

Negative Day 3, 5, 7

Positive Day 3, 5, 7, 10

Re-swab any contacts remaining in hospital at the end of the 10 day period.

If any further positive patient contacts are identified re-start the 10 day isolation period from the date of the last positive swab/positive exposure. IPC will update testing dates on Sema/affinity.

Staff

Once outbreak declared:

- 1) IPC to specify dates for staff swabbing (48hrs before 2nd C19+ case).
- 2) Matron (for clinical staff)/Ops manager (for F&E staff) identifies all staff contacts who have provided direct patient care on the ward including F&E, AHP's, medics, phlebotomy.
- 3) Matron/Ops manager to ensure all staff complete initial LFT test.
- 4) Matron/Ops manager to send LFT staff tested list to workforce hub and IPC
 uhsussex.covidstafftesting@nhs.net
- 5) Staff must complete daily LFT's prior to commencing their shift every day for 10 days.

Staff LFT Negative

Staff LFT positive

Daily LFT's and upload results to Trust results app for outbreak duration.

Staff to contact workforce hub

If LFT positive or symptomatic during outbreak contact line manager and workforce hub

Workforce hub risk assesses for PPE breaches, last working day and advises staff member on self-isolation duration and return to work process.

Following the initial asymptomatic LFT staff testing: if any further positive staff members are identified, whom have had a PPE breach whilst with outbreak ward patients, re-start the 10 day isolation period from the date of the last working day/breach. If no PPE breach identified continue with isolation period/clock previously set (IPC can advise).