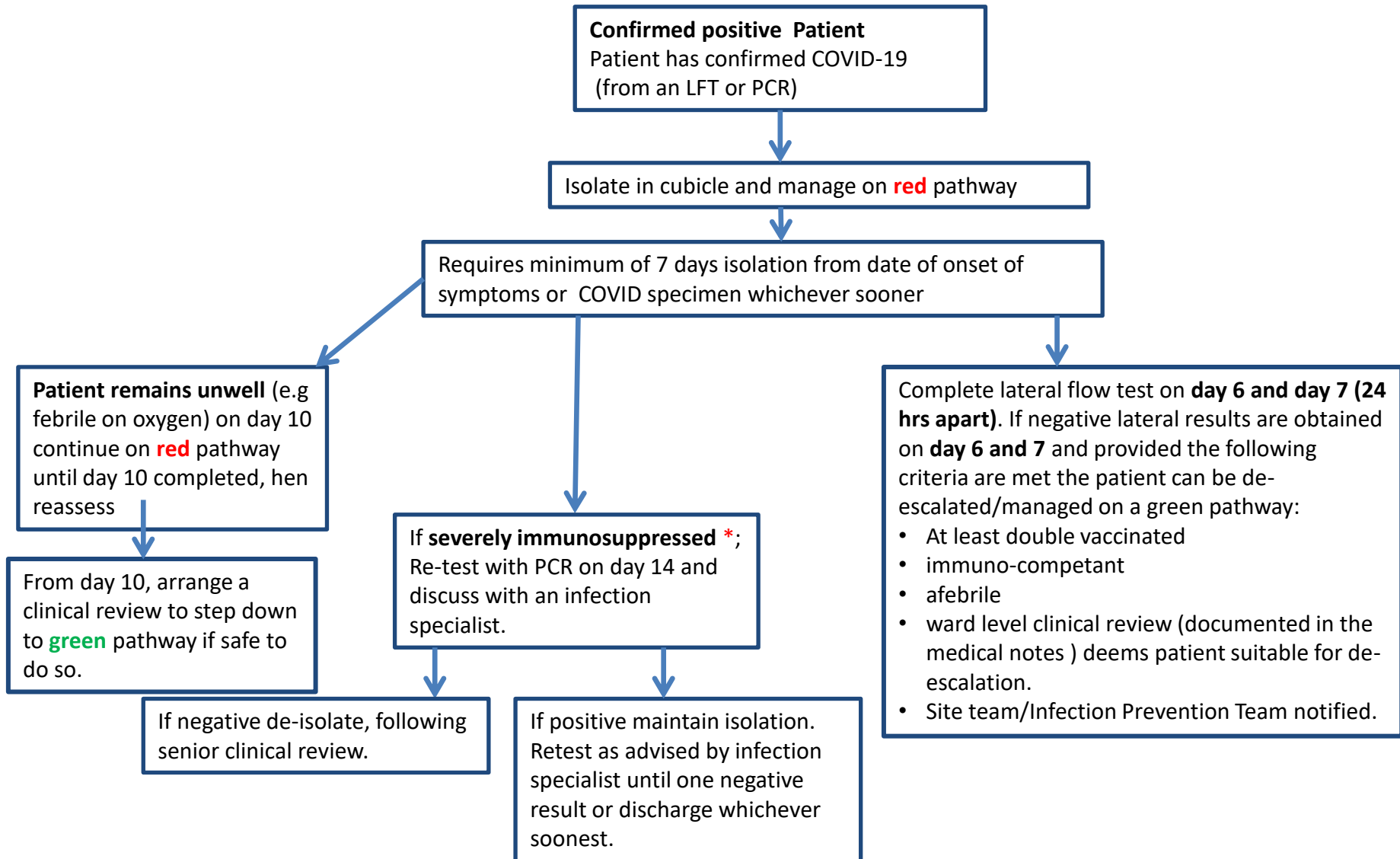


De-escalation of confirmed COVID-19 positive hospital inpatients



Appendix list of immunosuppression definitions

Severe immunosuppression definitions

Severe immunosuppression is defined in the [Green Book on Immunisation](#) as:

- immunosuppression due to acute and chronic leukaemias and lymphoma (including Hodgkin's lymphoma)
- severe immunosuppression due to HIV/AIDS ([British HIV Association advice](#))
- cellular immune deficiencies (such as severe combined immunodeficiency, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, 22q11 deficiency/DiGeorge syndrome)
- being under follow up for a chronic lymphoproliferative disorder including haematological malignancies such as indolent lymphoma, chronic lymphoid leukaemia, myeloma and other plasma cell dyscrasias
- having received an allogenic (cells from a donor) stem cell transplant in the past 24 months and only then if they are demonstrated not to have ongoing immunosuppression or graft versus host disease (GVHD)
- having received an autologous (using their own stem cells) haematopoietic stem cell transplant in the past 24 months and only then if they are in remission
- those who are receiving, or have received in the past 6 months, immunosuppressive chemotherapy or radiotherapy for malignant disease or non-malignant disorders
- those who are receiving, or have received in the past 6 months, immunosuppressive therapy for a solid organ transplant (with exceptions, depending upon the type of transplant and the immune status of the patient)
- those who are receiving or have received in the past 12 months immunosuppressive biological therapy (such as monoclonal antibodies), unless otherwise directed by a specialist
- those who are receiving or have received in the past 3 months immunosuppressive therapy including:
 - adults and children on high-dose corticosteroids (>40mg prednisolone per day or 2mg/kg/day in children under 20kg) for more than 1 week
 - adults and children on lower dose corticosteroids (>20mg prednisolone per day or 1mg/kg/day in children under 20kg) for more than 14 days
 - adults on non-biological oral immune modulating drugs, for example, methotrexate >25mg per week, azathioprine >3.0mg/kg/day or 6-mercaptopurine >1.5mg/kg/day
 - children on high doses of non-biological oral immune modulating drugs.

Immunosuppressed patients that do not meet the severe immunosuppression category

This includes patients who have received immunosuppressive therapy for treatment of COVID infection who were not immunosuppressed pre-COVID infection.

This group require a risk assessment as to whether they are considered as severely immunosuppressed due to a number of risk factors, and therefore need a negative swab before de-escalating e.g:

- Critical illness i.e. ventilation on ITU
- Extended or high dose course of steroids
- A standard course of dexamethasone and/or a single dose of IL6 inhibitor would not be considered as severe immunosuppression.