Does my Patient Need Testing for COVID-19?

Hospitalized or ED patient with severe, progressive lower respiratory infection needing mechanical ventilation AND no alternative diagnosis

Does patient have fever* OR new symptoms**?

NO

COVID-19 testing is not recommended.

YES

Does the patient have close contact*** with a person with a LABORATORY CONFIRMED case of COVID-19?

NO

YES

Meets criteria for testing. Instructions for ordering at Mayo RST

Does the patient fall into any of these categories?

- Air travel/cruise or domestic travel to major metropolitan areas in last 14 days
- Immunocompromised (e.g. currently receiving chemo, transplant, HIV)
- Age ≥65
- Healthcare worker
- Congestive heart failure
- Congenital heart disease
- Nursing home residence
- End stage renal disease
- End stage liver disease
- Pregnant women
- Chronic pulmonary disease (e.g. COPD, Asthma, or ILD)
*Fever present at any point in the last 48 hours: can be objective (100.5°F) or subjective

**Symptoms include new: cough, shortness of breath, respiratory distress, sore throat, diarrhea, chills, myalgias, loss of smell, or change or loss of taste sensation

***Close contact is defined by CDC as:
1. Being within approximately 6 feet of a COVID-19 patient for more than 5 minutes.
2. Having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g. being coughed on)

If there is a high clinical index of suspicion for a case that falls outside of this guidance, please call an IPAC/ID MD to discuss further. However, this document represents the consensus of the infection control physicians; most cases outside of this guidance will not be tested.