



## Flowchart to Identify and Assess 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection

For clinical evaluation of patients who may be ill with or who may have been exposed to 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<b>A.</b>	Identify if in the past 14 days since first onset of symptoms a history of either <b>Fever OR signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness in any person who has had close contact with a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset.</b>
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<b>B.</b>	OR the person has <b>Fever AND symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath) AND negative influenza test (rapid or PCR) and no other more likely diagnosis.</b>
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*If the patient meets either case definition (A or B)*



<b>1.</b>	<b>Isolate</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place surgical facemask on patient</li> <li>Isolate the patient in a negative pressure room, private room, or a separate area with the door shut</li> <li>Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as recommended by the CDC</li> <li>Use standard, contact, and airborne precautions AND eye protection</li> </ul>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Assess clinical status</b>							
	<b>EXAM</b> Including differential diagnosis	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Is fever present?</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Is respiratory illness present?</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Subjective?</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Cough?</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Measured? ____ °C/F</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath?</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Is fever present?</b>	<b>Is respiratory illness present?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Subjective?	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough?	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured? ____ °C/F	<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath?
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Inform</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact Iredell County Health Department Communicable Disease (CD) Nurse for further guidance and information about testing at:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During Business Hours call 704-878-5334                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If no answer, call 704-878-5300 ask for the CD Nurse to be paged</li> <li>If after hours, call 704-878-5300 for after-hours contact information</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Assess need to collect specimens to test for COVID-19</li> <li>Decide disposition (e.g. admitted to hospital, discharged to home)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLEASE DO NOT SEND THE PATIENT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR EVALUATION OR TESTING</b></p>

*If discharged to home*



<b>Instruct patient</b>	as needed depending on severity of illness and health department consultation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Guidance for Home Care</li> </ul>

<b>Advise patient</b>	if the patient develops new or worsening fever or respiratory illness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call clinician to determine if reevaluation is needed</li> <li>If reevaluation is needed call ahead and wear surgical facemask</li> </ul>

*\*Documentation of laboratory-confirmation of COVID-19 may not be possible for travelers or persons caring for patients in other countries. For more clarification on the definition of close contacts see CDC Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals:*

<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus incident is a rapidly evolving situation. Please review the other side of this document for reliable websites and phone number to assist with questions. Thank you for your efforts to serve the public health of Iredell County.

## **Contacts & Websites for Information about Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)**

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html>

North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services (NCDHHS) COVID-19 Website:

<https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/COVID19.html>

General Questions from Clinicians: [ncresponse@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:ncresponse@dhhs.nc.gov)

North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services: <https://www.ncems.org/>

Healthcare Preparedness Program/Healthcare Preparedness Coalitions:

- Triad Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (covering Iredell County from Troutman North): 336-702-1900 <https://triadpreparedness.org/hpc/>
- Metrolina Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (covering Iredell County south of Troutman): 980-349-6472 <https://metrolinapreparedness.org/mhpc/>

Iredell County Health Department (**for clinician use ONLY**)

- During Business Hours call the Communicable Disease (CD) Nurse, Rachael Cope, RN at 704-878-5334
  - If no answer, call 704-878-5300 ask for the CD Nurse to be paged
  - If after hours, call 704-878-5300 for after-hours contact information
  - General questions from clinicians: [rachael.cope@co.iredell.nc.us](mailto:rachael.cope@co.iredell.nc.us)
- For questions from the public, call 704-878-5300

North Carolina Public Information Hotline: 1-866-462-3821