

GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19 TESTING ON ADMISSION



DOC ID HHCMPA62022_v2

Effective Date: June 12, 2023

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Purpose	To provide guidance on COVID-19 testing on admission for select patients and units.						
Scope	New York City Health + Hospitals System For post-acute, please refer to PAC facility policies.						
Guidelines	<table><tr><td>Standard Measures</td><td>Universal admission testing is no longer needed with the exception of specified units/patients (see SARS-CoV-2 Admission Testing section below). All staff should adhere to current standard H+H PPE guidelines, along with transmission-based precautions where applicable.</td></tr><tr><td>SARS-CoV-2 Admission Testing</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal testing for SARS-CoV-2 on admission is no longer needed with exceptions noted below.• Regardless of community transmission level for COVID-19: all patients admitted to the specified units below will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 upon admission or within 24 hours prior to transfer to the specified unit. This applies to new transfers from other hospitals or units or healthcare facilities to the following units:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Intensive care units○ Congregate units (psychiatry, rehab)○ Oncology/hematology units• Admission testing for SARS-CoV-2 should also be obtained in any patient with a clinical signs or symptoms indicative of SARS-CoV-2 infection.• Admission testing not recommended for asymptomatic patients who recovered from COVID-19 in the past 30 days.• If the patient being admitted to the care units listed above refuses testing upon admission and is asymptomatic, they should be strongly encouraged to remain masked at all times, and closely observed for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following admission.</td></tr></table>			Standard Measures	Universal admission testing is no longer needed with the exception of specified units/patients (see SARS-CoV-2 Admission Testing section below). All staff should adhere to current standard H+H PPE guidelines, along with transmission-based precautions where applicable.	SARS-CoV-2 Admission Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal testing for SARS-CoV-2 on admission is no longer needed with exceptions noted below.• Regardless of community transmission level for COVID-19: all patients admitted to the specified units below will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 upon admission or within 24 hours prior to transfer to the specified unit. This applies to new transfers from other hospitals or units or healthcare facilities to the following units:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Intensive care units○ Congregate units (psychiatry, rehab)○ Oncology/hematology units• Admission testing for SARS-CoV-2 should also be obtained in any patient with a clinical signs or symptoms indicative of SARS-CoV-2 infection.• Admission testing not recommended for asymptomatic patients who recovered from COVID-19 in the past 30 days.• If the patient being admitted to the care units listed above refuses testing upon admission and is asymptomatic, they should be strongly encouraged to remain masked at all times, and closely observed for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following admission.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All patients who develop signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested immediately and isolated while test result is pending. This applies even if they tested negative at the time of admission to the unit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a symptomatic patient refuses testing, they should be placed in isolation until testing is complete or until criteria for discontinuation of COVID-19 isolation are met. If a patient who tested negative upon admission or refused testing at time of admission, then subsequently tests positive, notify facility infection prevention and control department. 	
References	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html		

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Prepared by:

Approved by:

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Name/Signature	Title	Date

Previous Versions of this Guidance

Signature	Title	Date
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 1 – May 18, 2022
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 2 – June 12, 2023