

ALGORITHM FOR INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POSSIBLE CASES OF SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS ASSOCIATED WITH A NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

POSSIBLE CASE

PATIENT UNDER INVESTIGATION

- Any person with severe acute respiratory infection;
 - Symptoms of fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever and cough

AND

- With evidence of pulmonary parenchymal disease (eg. pneumonia or Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)) based on clinical or radiological evidence)

AND

- Not explained by any other infection or aetiology¹

AND EITHER

- History of travel to or residence in an area² where infection with novel coronavirus 2012 has recently been reported or where transmission could have occurred in the ten days before onset of illness

OR

- Healthcare worker based in ICU caring for patients with severe acute respiratory infection

OR

- Close contact (i.e. prolonged face-to-face contact) during the **ten days** before onset of illness with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus infection while the case was ill

CLUSTER³

- Two or more cases of severe acute respiratory infection requiring ICU admission, regardless of history of travel

AND

- Not explained by any other infection or aetiology¹

OR

¹including all clinically indicated tests for community or hospital acquired pneumonia

²as of 03/12/2012: Bahrain, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Syria, UAE and Yemen – see [map](#)

³Cluster is defined as two or more cases within a specific closed setting (eg. classroom, workplace, household, hospital, other residential institution), developing symptoms within the same two week period

MEETS POSSIBLE CASE DEFINITION

- Ensure HPU is notified
- HPU ensures the patient is managed using standard transmission based precautions for respiratory tract infections (infection control advice [here](#))
- HPU informs HPS Colindale by **email** (respiratory.lead@hpa.org.uk)
- HPU enters case details on HPZone (Infection and specific context: novel coronavirus 2012)
- HPU ensures nose and throat swabs in VTM, and sputum sample are collected and sent to appropriate HPA Regional testing lab – see lab guidance [here](#)
- HPU collects minimum case data set (**Form 1**) – **email** to HPS Colindale

REGIONAL LAB TEST **NEGATIVE FOR NOVEL CORONAVIRUS**

DISCARD

REGIONAL LAB TEST **POSITIVE FOR NOVEL CORONAVIRUS**

- Ensure HPU is notified
- HPU informs HPS Colindale by **email**
- HPU collates list of contacts* using contact line list – **email** to HPS Colindale

ADDITIONALLY FOLLOW “CLOSE CONTACT OF A CASE POSITIVE FOR NOVEL CORONAVIRUS FOLLOW UP ALGORITHM”

BASELINE

- HPU to ensure full personal PPE** is worn (infection control advice [here](#))
- HPU completes initial case form (**Form 1a**) – **email** to HPS Colindale
- HPU ensures case baseline samples (urine, faeces and clotted blood) are collected and sent to HPA MS Colindale – see lab guidance [here](#)

FOLLOW UP

- HPU completes case follow-up form ((**Form 1b**) **14-21 days since Form 1a completed**) – **email** to HPS Colindale
- HPU ensures follow up samples from case (urine, faeces and clotted blood) are collected **at least 14 days since baseline samples collected** and sent to HPA MS Colindale – see lab guidance [here](#). While symptomatic, ensure full PPE** is worn.

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Baseline clotted blood sample should be taken asap and ideally no later than 7 days after symptom onset. Follow-up sample should be taken at least 14 days after the baseline sample, or 28 days after illness onset if a sample couldn't be taken when case was symptomatic.

*Contact definitions (from date of illness onset in index case and throughout their symptomatic period):

- Health and social care workers: worker who provided direct clinical or personal care or examination of a symptomatic case positive for novel coronavirus or within close vicinity of an aerosol generating procedure AND who were not wearing full personal protective equipment (PPE***) at the time.
- Household or close contact: any person who has had prolonged face-to-face contact (>15 minutes) with a symptomatic case positive for novel coronavirus in a household or other closed setting.

**Full PPE is defined as correctly fitted high filtration respirator (FFP3), gown, gloves and eye protection.