MEMO

Date: April 5, 2020
To: Emergency Departments/Urgent Care Centres
From: Dr. John Sokal, Medical COVID Lead, Adult Emergency Medicine
       Ms. Wendy Ducharme, Nursing COVID Lead, Adult Emergency Medicine
Re: Emergency Department/Urgent Care Centre COVID-19 Lead Recommendations

It is expected that all Emergency Departments and/or Urgent Care Centres (ED/UC) in Manitoba will implement the following:


   NOTE: Documents are updated regularly. It is recommended that all department directors review for changes daily and alert their providers.

2. All patients presenting with influenza-like-illness, shortness of breath or other respiratory symptoms are to be placed, at a minimum, on droplet/contact precautions.

3. Patients who are unconscious or delirious and thus are unable to provide a COVID screening history are to be placed, at a minimum, on droplet/contact precautions until a history can be clarified.

4. Patients presenting critically ill and who are anticipated to imminently require an aerosol generating medical procedure (AGMP), such as intubation or CPR, are to be placed in a negative pressure space. If no negative pressure space is available, the patient is to be placed in an enclosed room with the door closed, where possible.

5. Gowns should be worn for the following patients:
   · who are unconscious or delirious    OR
   · with respiratory symptoms  OR
   · who tested COVID positive     OR
   · who require use of gowns under routine precautions (MRSA)

6. Gowns are not required for patients who:
   · do not have respiratory symptoms    AND
   · have not tested COVID positive      AND
   · do not require use of gowns under routine precautions
7. Procedure masks, eye protection and gloves shall be used for all direct patient interactions unless otherwise stated in specific instructions.

8. As of April 5 2020, the screening criteria retains travel and contact with COVID+ persons or lab specimens. These patients should also be placed on droplet/contact precautions. Testing these patients for COVID-19 is to be performed only if symptomatic.