

COVID-19 Protocol—March 13, 2020

By: Dr. Candice Smith

Thank you for your support in this time of rapid change and new procedures to deal with COVID-19. The CDC recommends testing be focused on patients with signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19. This will obviously change daily as the local epidemiologic risk changes as well as the availability of testing.

COVID-19—Remember that congestion and sore throat are less common symptoms. Focus on the cough, on and off fever, fatigue, and the shortness of breath and pneumonia.

100% early on (43%)
67.7%
1%
Reduction (33.4%)
of breath (18.6%)

Myalgia or Arthralgia (14.8%)
Sore Throat (13.9%)
Headache (13.6%)
Chills (11.4%)
Nausea or Vomiting (5.0%)

Nasal Congestion (4.8%)
Diarrhea (3.7%)
Hemoptysis (0.9%)
Conjunctival Congestion (0.8%)

HIGHEST RISK:

COUGH or DYSPNEA or other compatible symptoms

PLUS:

CONTACT WITH A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER INCLUDING HEALTH CARE WITH A CONTACT of a lab CONFIRMED suspected case in 14 days

OR

TRAVEL TO A GEOGRAPHICALLY AFFECTED AREA in 14 days (Italy, Iran, China, South Korea)

Wear a face mask

Wait in a car—follow FLOWCHART for MA in a waiting room at car of Flu, oxygen saturation

Infection control: AIRBORNE/Contact
Use N95 mask, eye shield, gown,

[How to put on and doff PPE](#)

Utah DOH Provider Line 1-800-456-7707

MODERATE RISK:

FEVER or COUGH or DYSPNEA or other compatible symptoms

AND:

History TO A MODERATELY AFFECTED AREA in 14 days, or an evolving area

OR CONCERN about exposure to a suspected person

Notify MA or PCP

If PCP, after reviewing the risk for exposure, determines COVID-19 testing is appropriate:

Testing:

- Patient with face mask
- COVID visit—follow FLOWCHART for MA in PPE assessment at car of Flu, oxygen saturation
- PPE: surgical mask, eye protection, gloves and gown
- If supplies run short we will evaluate based on the CDC recommendations below.
- Call UTAH DOH Provider Line 1-800-456-7707
- [PUI Forms](#)

LOW RISK:

Symptoms not strongly compatible with COVID-19
AND

No direct contact exposure to person with COVID-19
travel

Testing:

- Patient with face mask—WAIT in a waiting room
- MD evaluation for alternate diagnosis
- Follow infection control as needed for the clinical scenario