Bed Management

Updated Sept. 11, 2020

This interim guidance is based on what is currently known about COVID-19 and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) current guidance.

The following bed placement model should be followed in order to safely cohort COVID-19 + patients and PUIs from those patients not affected by COVID-19.
COVID-19 Bed Management - FINAL

Emergency Department

Patient Arrives
- COVID-19 Status?
  - Positive
    - Implement Respiratory Hygiene and Cough Etiquette
      - Is dedicated location to evaluate PUIs in place?  
        - No
          - Is there a separate well-ventilated waiting space with easy access to respiratory hygiene supplies?  
            - No
              - Is the patient medically-stable?  
                - No
                  - Offer patient option to wait in personal vehicle or outside the healthcare facility and call when room available
                - Yes
                  - Have patient wait in separate waiting space until exam room available
            - Yes
              - Insert RHM options
    - Yes
      - Disposition?
        - Admin
          - See Inpatient Process Flow
        - Discharge
          - Provide patient instructions for stable PUI for return home
  - Unknown
    - Fever, respiratory infection i.e., cough and/or difficulty breathing?
      - No
        - Recent travel from area in the U.S. (e.g., NY city) or other country with widespread, sustained transmission?
          - Yes
            - Contact with someone with known or suspected COVID-19?
              - Yes
                - Follow Standard Procedures for Bed Management
              - No
                - Is there a separate well-ventilated waiting space with easy access to respiratory hygiene supplies?
                  - No
                    - Is the patient medically-stable?
                      - Yes
                        - Insert RHM options
                      - No
                        - Offer patient option to wait in personal vehicle or outside the healthcare facility and call when room available
                  - Yes
                    - Have patient wait in separate waiting space until exam room available

Aerosol-Generating Procedures (AGP) are procedures that are likely to induce coughing, e.g., open suctioning of airways, suction induction, CPR, Endotracheal intubation and extubation, placing or changing tracheostomy tubes, non-invasive ventilation-high flow nasal cannula, BiPap, CPAP, bronchoscopy, manual ventilation, chest physiotherapy, NG placement, nebulizer administration
Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIR) are negative-pressure rooms
Patient Under Investigation (PUI) is a patient suspected of having COVID-19

* Consider creating a PUI cohort unit as needed. The unit needs to be separate from COVID-19 positive patients but could be on the opposite site of the COVID-19 unit.