

# UCSF Health COVID-19 Algorithm for On-site Respiratory Evaluation in Adult Respiratory Screening Clinics (RSCs) & Accelerated Care Units (ACUs)

Subject to modification - Refer to UCSF Infection Control Website for version updates  
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UCSF Health  
 V.16  
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Guidelines cannot replace personalized evaluation and management decisions based on individual patient factors

Target Audience: Respiratory Screening Centers (RSC) and Ambulatory Care Units (ACU)

**COVID-19 RNA test specimens now require a pooled OP+NP/Mid-Turbinate swab specimen**

Acceptable testing methods:

1. Flocked swab Nasopharyngeal (NP) plus oropharyngeal (OP)
2. Flocked swab Mid-Turbinate plus OP
3. Synthetic Swab Mid-Turbinate plus OP

-All tests can be requested through the same Apex order for COVID-19 RNA  
 -RVP and COVID-19 RNA testing should be done on the same swab  
 -Order either RVP or rapid flu/RSV, not both

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

#### General Tips

**Don** PPE outside of patient room  
**Doff** PPE as follows:  
 Remove gown and gloves inside clinic room and perform hand hygiene.  
 Once outside of patient room, remove surgical mask with eye protection OR N95 respirator/face protection and perform hand hygiene.

For tips on PPE re-use guidelines, see PPE section on the UCSF infection control coronavirus website.

Has any of the following **new / worsening** symptoms:  
 1. Fever (objective or subjective)  
 2. Unexplained muscle aches  
 3. Respiratory symptoms (shortness of breath, cough)  
 4. URI symptoms (sinus congestion, runny nose, sore throat)  
 5. GI symptoms (diarrhea, nausea, vomiting)  
 6. ENT symptoms (loss of taste or smell)  
 7. Eye symptoms (conjunctivitis)  
 8. Altered mentation (confused, dizziness, falls)

No → Standard work flow

Yes  
 1. Place in single room with door closed. Patient escort wears surgical mask, eye shield, gown, and gloves if there is direct patient contact.  
 2. Place **Contact/Droplet Isolation** sign on door.  
 3. HCW entering room to use gloves, gown, surgical mask and eye protection  
 4. Triage acuity of patient (vitals, brief history and risk assessment, exam)

Exclusion Criteria → Known or suspected alternative diagnosis thought unrelated to COVID (e.g., COPD, asthma, underlying CHF, etc)

Stable for clinic assessment

Unstable for clinic assessment

Evaluate patient and consider:  
 1. COVID-19 RNA qualitative  
 2. Rapid flu/RSV PCR or full RVP  
 3. CBC w diff, CMP, CRP, CXR  
 \*\*All viral tests can be done using the same swab. Order both viral tests, and submit one sample to the lab.\*\*  
**See Yellow Box for details.**

Don PAPR or N95 with eye protection plus gown/gloves while obtaining NP swabs. If not available, use surgical mask with eye protection, gown, gloves.  
 For nebulized medications or other discrete aerosol-generating procedures wear PAPR or N95 with eye protection plus gown/gloves during procedure and when entering room 1 hour after.

1. Notify EMS and ED of intention to transport and concern for COVID-19  
 2. Patient wears surgical mask  
 3. PPE for transporters: gloves and gowns and surgical mask with eye protection.

Tests sent as indicated

Stable and suitable for discharge home

Requires admission

1. Provide COVID-19 discharge instructions via one of the following smartphrases: coviddischargeadult  
 2. COVID-19 positive: Patient is contacted by the COVID+ Clinical Management team. Result also available via MyChart.  
 3. COVID-19 negative: MyChart message or phone call to patient. Patient instructed to call their PCP if they need further guidance.

Patient homeless or in shelter: Contact SFDPH for guidance  
 Daytime hours: 415-554-2830  
 After hours: 415-554-3613  
 Patient in nursing home, LTAC, SNF, Assisted living: contact the facility and SFDPH or local health dept  
 Patient hemodialysis: contact the dialysis clinic  
 Patient lives in dormitory: ask for room isolation pending test result

At the time of admission please notify about concern for COVID-19:  
 Adults Transfer Center  
 415-353-9166  
 Pediatrics  
 415-353-1611

**Post discharge room care**  
 -If aerosol-generating procedure performed, need to wait 1 hour then clean room before next patient  
**-No need to wait 1 hr if Aerosol Generating Procedure not performed**  
 -Clean high touch surfaces with approved hospital disinfectant (Clorox Hydrogen Peroxide wipes)

**KEY INFORMATION**

**COVID Hotline(415-514-7328)**  
 Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm; Saturday-Sunday: 8-2pm

**VACC Hours of Operation:** Now consolidated into the RSCs. Monday-Sunday 8am-5pm

**Provider Only Central Scheduling Line**

1. Providers requesting RSC appts should use the smartphrase covidadultremotetriage for their patients & must put in a referral in Apex "Ambulatory Referral to COVID Testing Appointment or Respiratory Screening Clinic (UCSF ONLY)." Please note that if making a nurse-only visit, a future order for COVID testing must also be placed.
2. For urgent RSC scheduling needs feel free to call 415-514-2850 scheduling questions (RSC appts still require a referral even when calling) Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, Saturday-Sunday 8am-5pm

**Mobile Testing (Laurel Heights)**  
 Monday-Sunday 9am-5pm

**Adult Respiratory Screening Clinics (RSCs)**

**\*\*Backline #'s listed below are only for non-RSC clinics sending patients screening positive for COVID symptoms directly to RSCs for walk-ins with the "Clinic to RSC Passport."**

**-Mount Zion RSC; Backline: 415-885-3549**  
 Monday-Friday 8-12 & 12:30-5pm  
 1600 Divisadero Ave, 2ndFloor of the Cancer Center San Francisco, CA 94115

**-Parnassus RSC; Backline: 415-353-2138**  
 Monday-Sunday 8-12 & 12:30-5pm  
 \*\*NOTE NEW LOCATION\*\*  
 400 Parnassus 1st Floor San Francisco, CA 94143

**-Mission Bay RSC; Backline: 415-514-4085**  
 Monday-Friday 8-12:30 & 1-5pm; closed at lunch  
 1825 4th street, 4th floor, Gateway Medical Building San Francisco, CA 94158