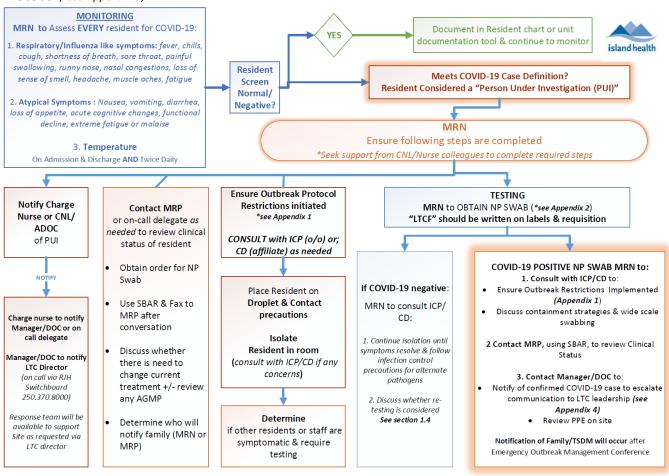




Protocols are defined pathways/processes of required actions

Purpose:	The COVID-19 Response Protocol is for use by health care providers and leadership in all Long-term Care (LTC) facilities to:
	 Provide clear instructions for front line staff regarding management of residents presenting with influenza and COVID-19 like signs and/or symptoms
	 Ensure LTC leadership escalates communication to appropriate parties in the event of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19.
	 Ensure Island Health and Ministry of Health remains informed in the event of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19.
	 Reinforce infection control & outbreak protocols are followed in the event of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19
Scope:	 Managers and Directors of Care (DOC), Charge Nurse, RN/RPN, LPN, HCA, Allied health, Physicians Long-term Care Island Wide (affiliate & owned and operated)
Outcomes:	Ensure front line staff are clear regarding approved protocol in the event of a probable or
	confirmed case of COVID-19
	 Ensure appropriate notification to Medical Health Officer (MHO) & Ministry of Health
	 Ensure appropriate outbreak management of COVID-19 from system perspective

1.0 **Protocol** (*see Appendix 3)



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1.1 Case Definition & Testing

- 1.1.1 COVID-19 may present with a range of symptoms. Testing is indicated for those presenting with any of the following:
 - 1.1.1 Fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, odynophagia (painful swallowing), rhinorrhea (runny nose), nasal congestion (stuff nose), anosmia (loss of sense of smell), headache, muscle aches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite.
 - **1.1.1.2** Additional testing can be requested at MRP clinical discretion (e.g. acute cognitive change particularly hypoactive delirium, extreme fatigue or generalized weakness, malaise, functional decline)

1.1 Routine Screening & Monitoring for COVID-19 (BC CDC LAB Testing Guidelines)

- 1.1.1 All residents should be assessed for new or worsening respiratory, systemic & gastrointestional symptoms (see COVID-19 symptoms 1.1.1.) & have temperature checked (preferably temporal artery measurement).
 - 1.1.1.1 Upon admission & discharge to/from facility
 - 1.1.1.2 Twice daily and as clinically indicated
 - 1.1.1.3 Document above assessment in resident chart
 - 1.1.1.3.1 Units can use documentation tracking tool for normal (negative) screens

1.2 INITIAL STEPS FOR PERSON UNDER INVESTIGATION (PUI)

- **1.2.1** For any resident who has met any one of above case definitions, the most responsible nurse (MRN) would initiate COVID-19 response protocol for LTCF as follows:
 - **1.2.1.1** Initiate isolation precautions by placing resident on Droplet and Contact precautions and posting signage (see Appendix 1)
 - **1.2.1.2** Place resident in isolation, on their own, with acess to their own toilet
 - 1.2.1.3 Consult with Infection Control Practitioner (ICP) or Communicable Disease (CD) (see contact numbers section 1.6 & 1.7) program as required for clinical guidance
 - 1.2.1.4 Notify Charge Nurse (or CNL/Associate Director of Care) or PUI
 - 1.2.1.5 Obtain Nasopharyngeal (NP) Swab from resident (s) (Appendix 2)
 - 1.2.1.5.1 Ensure labels and requisition indicate "LTCF" for prioritized testing
 - 1.2.1.5.2 Follow lab collection protocol for specimen pick up and delivery, send without delay (see section 1.5 if difficulty with obtaining swabs)
 - 1.2.1.5.3 Determine if any other residents or staff are symptomatic and work with ICP/CD for contact tracing
 - 1.2.1.5.4 Consult with ICP or CD program to determine whether additional steps in COVID-19 restriction protocol are to be initiated (*Appendix 1*)

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- 1.2.1.5.4.1 Inform housekeeping need for precaution cleaning for affected rooms
 - 1.2.1.5.4.1.1 For Island Health facilities, ICP will send requisition during regular weekday office hours
 - 1.2.1.5.4.1.2 For Affiliate sites, refer to housekeeping guidelines for recommended practices
- 1.2.1.5.4.2 Dining/Social Isolation
 - 1.2.1.5.4.2.1 Meals should be provided to resident within room
- 1.2.2 Consult with Most Responsible Provider (MRP)
 - 1.2.2.1 MRN to consult with MRP as clinically indicated:
 - 1.2.2.1.1 Using SBAR (see Appendix 6), share clinical status of resident and determine whether further clinical monitoring and/or intervention needed.
 - 1.2.2.1.2 Review the need to modify or stop aeorosolizing treaments if applicable (i.e BiPAP, CPAP, nebulizers, suctioning). Consider alternate treatment where possible, otherwise airborne precautions indicated
 - 1.2.2.1.2.1 Fax SBAR to MRP once conversation complete
 - 1.2.2.2 Consult with Charge Nurse/CNL/Manager or Associate/DOC regarding notification to family or temporary substitute decision maker (TSDM)
- 1.2.3 Continue monitoring for illness in other residents or staff
 - 1.2.3.1 Nursing team to remain alert and continue monitoring all residents (see routine monitoring 1.1). Consult immediately with ICP/CD if any other symptomatic residents develop
 - 1.2.3.2 Be alert to staff who develop illness
 - 1.2.3.2.1 Staff with ILI, respiratory illness or fever should NOT come to work and should be instructed to contact island health for testing at **1.844.901.8442**

1.3 COVID-19 CONFIRMED POSITIVE

- 1.3.1 If Resident NP swab is confirmed as Positive, the MRN should ensure following steps are completed:
 - 1.3.1.1 **Urgently Consult with ICP/CD** to ensure all outbreak restrictions are identified and implemented in facility (*see Appendix 1*)
 - 1.3.1.1.1 Keep Resident in Isolation (on their own with private toilet) or as directed by ICP/CD
 - 1.3.1.1.2 Consult with ICP/CD about wide-spread testing of other residents/staff with NP swab
 - 1.3.1.1.3 Determine if unit or building needs to be on lock down & appropriate containment strategies

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- 1.3.1.1.4 Ensure all affected residents are under droplet/contact precautions with staff adhering to PPE & hand hygiene recommendations.
- 1.3.1.1.5 With support from ICP/CD, notify all support services of positive case
 - 1.3.1.1.5.1 Food Services → Tray service indicated for all affected residents
 - 1.3.1.1.5.2 Housekeeping → Enhanced Cleaning and as directed by ICP/CD
 - 1.3.1.1.5.3 Pharmacy→ Will need to develop one way medication delivery
 - 1.3.1.1.5.4 Admitting → Bed closures required & will be facilited with direction from ICP/CD with notification to access team
- 1.3.1.2 Urgently Consult with MRP regarding clinical status of resident
 - 1.3.1.2.1 Using SBAR (see Appendix 6):
 - 1.3.1.2.1.1 Review clinical status of resident
 - 1.3.1.2.1.2 Discuss whether urgent transfer required, otherwise this will be deferred to Emergency Oubtreak Management Teleconference [see Appendix 4])
 - 1.3.1.2.1.3 Fax SBAR to MRP once conversation complete
 - 1.3.1.2.2 Ensure MRP is aware of emergency outbreak management teleconference (250.519.770 local 23684)
 - 1.3.1.2.2.1 Ensure MRP aware this teleconference will occur 60 minutes from the time CD notified you/unit of positive case, provide them with exact time
 - 1.3.1.2.3 Disclosure of COVID-19 positive status to family/TSDM for impacted resident will occur after the emergency outbreak management teleconference (likely by MRP).
 - 1.3.1.2.3.1 Communication to all impacted residents will also need to occur following emergency outbreak management teleconference.

 Discuss with SW, CD/ICD and site leadership team.
- 1.3.1.3 Urgently Notify Manager/Director of Care or on-call delegate of positive swab
 - 1.3.1.3.1 Manager to escalate communication (see Appendix 4)
 - 1.3.1.3.2 Provide information to manager/DOC (see Appendix 7 for details):
 - 1.3.1.3.2.1 Extent of outbreak
 - 1.3.1.3.2.2 Supplies: Swabs & PPE
 - 1.3.1.3.2.3 Any staffing related matters
 - 1.3.1.3.2.4 Time of initial notification of positive result so teleconference time can be appropriately reported out
- 1.3.1.4 Participate in Emergency Outbreak Management Teleconference (site leadership required including charge nurse)
 - 1.3.1.4.1 To occur 60 minutes from time site is notifed of initial positive result by CD

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- 1.3.1.4.2 To participate in teleconference, dial 250.519.7700 local 26834
- 1.3.1.5 Prepare resident for transfer to COVID-19 cohort unit (see Appendix 5)
 - 1.3.1.5.1 Take all vital signs and assess clinical status
 - 1.3.1.5.2 Ensure Resident is dressed in full droplet and contact PPE for transfer as tolerated, surgical mask & hand hygiene at minimum
 - 1.3.1.5.3 MRN to call appropriate transfer vehical (see Appendix 5)
 - 1.3.1.5.3.1 Emergency Health Services (i.e. ambulance) @ 911 or Medivan based and report:
 - 1.3.1.5.3.1.1 COVID-19 status and need to transfer to COVID -19 Cohort unit
 - 1.3.1.5.3.1.2 Clinical Status (including vitals & MOST)

1.3.1.6 Disclosure of COVID-19 positive & Outbreak status

- 1.3.1.6.1 Site Leadership will work with SW and executive leadership team to ensure disclosure to COVID-19 positive resident AND residents impacted by outbreak status
- 1.3.1.7 **Document** any COVID-19 positive related clinical assessments, interventions and actions taken in resident's chart

1.4 COVID-19 Negative

- 1.4.1 If Resident NP swab results are negative:
 - 1.4.1.1 Continue isolation until symptoms have resolved. If another infectious cause is identified, consult with CD/ICP & follow appropriate infection control precautions for that pathogen.
 - 1.4.1.2 If symptoms continue, progress, or worsen, retesting after several days may be considered. Consult with the CD or ICP practitioner and the MRP.
 - 1.4.1.2.1 MRN to take NP swab if determined clinically warranted & follow steps outlined in 1.2 as appropriate.

1.5 ESCALATING COMMUNICATION

1.5.1 Person Under Investiation (PUI) Protocol

- 1.5.1.1 Charge Nurse to notify Manager/DOC
- 1.5.1.2 Manager/Director of Care (DOC) to notify LTC Director
 - 1.5.1.2.1 Manager to confirm appropriate infection control practices/isolation in place (see *Appendix 1*)
 - 1.5.1.2.2 **For after hours,** LTC Director on call is contacted via **RJH Switchboard 250.370.8000).** ENSURE Switchboard is aware you are calling regarding a COVID-19 issue
- 1.5.1.3 LTC Director to notify and engage COVID-19 Response Team as required via Whatsapp group

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1.5.2 COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE PROTOCOL

1.5.2.1 Review Appendix 4 Escalating Communication COVID-19 CONFIRMED POSITIVE

1.5.2.1.1 **Protocol during REGULAR HOURS:**

- **1.5.2.1.1.1** Charge Nurse to notify Manager/DOC
- **1.5.2.1.1.2** Manager/DOC will escalate communication to LTC Director & site executive leadership AND medical coordinator
- **1.5.2.1.1.3** LTC Director to notify 1) ED PP, Mark Blandford; 2) LTC COVID-19 Response Team; 3) MHO; 4) Admin Assistant; 5) Licensing & Communications

1.5.2.1.1.4 The following **meeting structure** will be implemented

- **1.5.2.1.1.4.1** Emergency Outbreak ManagementTeleconference (EOM) (60 minutes from initial site notification by CD)
- **1.5.2.1.1.4.2** Incident Management Teleconference led by ED (Immediately after EOM)
- **1.5.2.1.1.4.3** Outbreak Management Follow Up (2-3 hours following EOM)

1.5.2.1.2 **Protocol AFTER HOURS:**

- **1.5.2.1.2.1** Charge Nurse to notify Manager/DOC on call
- 1.5.2.1.2.2 Manager/DOC on call will notify LTC Director on call
 - **1.5.2.1.2.2.1** LTC Director on call is contacted via **RJH Switchboard 250.370.8000).** ENSURE Switchboard is aware you are calling regarding a COVID-19 issue
- **1.5.2.1.2.3** LTC Director to notify 1) ED PP, Mark Blandford; 2) LTC COVID-19 Response Team; 3) MHO; 4) Admin Assistant; 5) Licensing & Communications
- **1.5.2.1.2.4** The meeting structure remains as in 1.5.2.1.1.4

1.6 COVID-19 LTC RESPONSE TEAM

- **1.6.1** COVID-19 LTC Response team will:
 - **1.6.1.1** Engage with site as determined by LTC Director
 - **1.6.1.2** Be available to support and provide consultation to impacted site as appropriate.
 - **1.6.1.3** Response team member(s) may perform site visits as indicated

1.7 STAFFING

- 1.7.1 Manager to notify Director if site staffing shortages or workload required
- **1.7.2** In case of outbreak, EOM & incident management meeting will review any pertinent staffing issues and ensure staff can be deployed to impacted site

1.8 SUPPLIES/SWABS

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- **1.8.1** All sites are to keep supply of 5 NP swabs at all time and are expected to routinely monitor supply level
- **1.8.2** Please place any supply requests for the weekend prior to 1500 the proceeding thursday
- **1.8.3** Should you require additional swabs, contact Island Health Lab Team Lead Michelle. Singleton@viha.ca or @ 250.737.2000 ext 45673 who will arrange delivery
- **1.8.4** In event of outbreak and after hours, call 250.370.8720

1.9 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **1.9.1** During Buisness hours (M-F 0800-1600): Site to contact LTC PPE Lead via ltcresponseteam@viha.ca
- **1.9.2** After hours, contact LTC LTC Director/Operations Director will notify Logistics Corporate director at 250.370.8116 ext. 18116

1.10 ICP Contact Contact Numbers (Island Health Owned & Operated)

- 1.10.1 Directly contact your Site Specific IPC or find their contact in hyperlink: IPC Contact
- **1.10.2** After Hours: Medical Microbiologist via Royal Jubilee Hospital Switchboard x 250.370.8111

1.11 CD Contact Numbers (Affiliates)

- 1.11.1 South CD Office (Victoria): 1.866.665.6626
- 1.11.2 Central CD Office (Nanaimo): 1.866.770.7798
- 1.11.3 North CD Office (Courtenay): 1.877.887.8835
- **1.11.4** After Hours CD (Affilitates): Medical Health Officer on call(MHO)

2.0 Definitions

- COVID-19 Outbreak: A COVID-19 related outbreak is defined as:
 - Two or more residents or staff with ILI symptoms occurring within 12 days, with at least one case identified as a resident; OR if any staff or resident is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- **Coronaviruses**: are a large family of viruses found mostly in animals. In humans, they can cause diseases ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV).
- **COVID-19:** COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus. This new virus, SARS-CoV-2, and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019.
- Most Responsible Provider (MRP): Physician and/or nurse practitioner assigned to the resident
- Most Responsible Nurse: The RN and/or LPN assigned to care for the resident for that given shift

3.0 Related Health Guidelines

- BC CDC Long-Term Care Facilities & Assisted Living: Interimguidance for long-term care and assisted living facilities
- BC CDC: COVID-19 Testing Guidelines for British Columbia

4.0 References

World Health Organization

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- Operational Considerations for case management of COVID-19 in health facility and community
- BC Center for Disease Control (BCCDC) Long-term Care Facilities & Assisted Living
- BC CDC: COVID-19: Testing Guidelines for British Columbia
- Regional Geriatric Program of Toronto (2020). COVID-19 in Older Adults

5.0 Resources

- Appendix 1: COVID-19 LTC Outbreak Restrictions Protocol
- Appendix 2: How to collect a NP Swab (preferred specimen)
- Appendix 3: COVID-19 Protocol LTCF
- Appendix 4: Escalating Communication COVID-19 CONFIRMED POSITIVE
- Appendix 5: COVID-19 Confirmed Positive Transfer Protocol
- Appendix 6: SBAR Sample
- Appendix 7: LTC Site Leadership Checklist

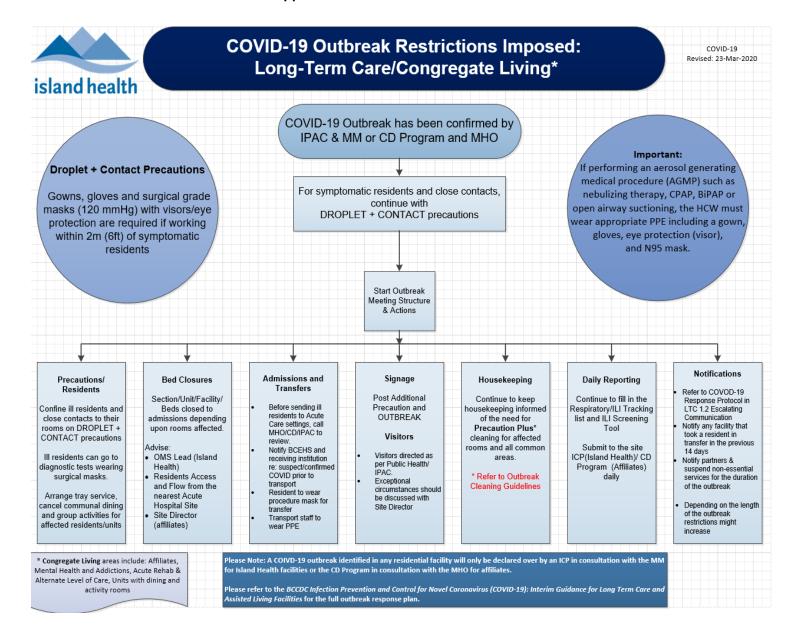
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Appendix 1: COVID-19 LTC Outbreak Protocol



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Appendix 2: NP Swab Collection

ILI Outbreak Management (continued)

PROCEDURE FOR NASOPHARYNGEAL SWABS **Procedure** Explain procedure to the patient. Protect yourself (fluid resistant mask with visor, gloves and disposable gown). If the patient has a lot of mucous, ask them to use a tissue to gently blow their nose prior to specimen collection. Influenza is found in the cells that line the nasopharynx, not in the mucous. With head supported, push the tip of the nose upwards. Insert the swab backwards and downwards to a depth of 2-4 cm into one nostril. Rotate the swab gently for 5-10seconds. Place the swab into the virus transport media, snap off the top of swab, 5 tiahten lid. 6 Label container with sample type and a minimum of two patient identifiers: First/Last Name, DOB, PHN, or use patient label with bar graph demographics 7 Instruct the patient to use a tissue to contain cough and mucous.

References:

- BCCDC H1N1 Specimen Collection Guidelines.
- Vancouver Coastal Health, Influenza-like Illness Outbreak Specimen Collection.

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*Ensure lables and requisitions indicate "LTCF" to ensure prioritized testing

*Follow Lab COVID-19 Protocol for Specimine Pick Up and Delivery

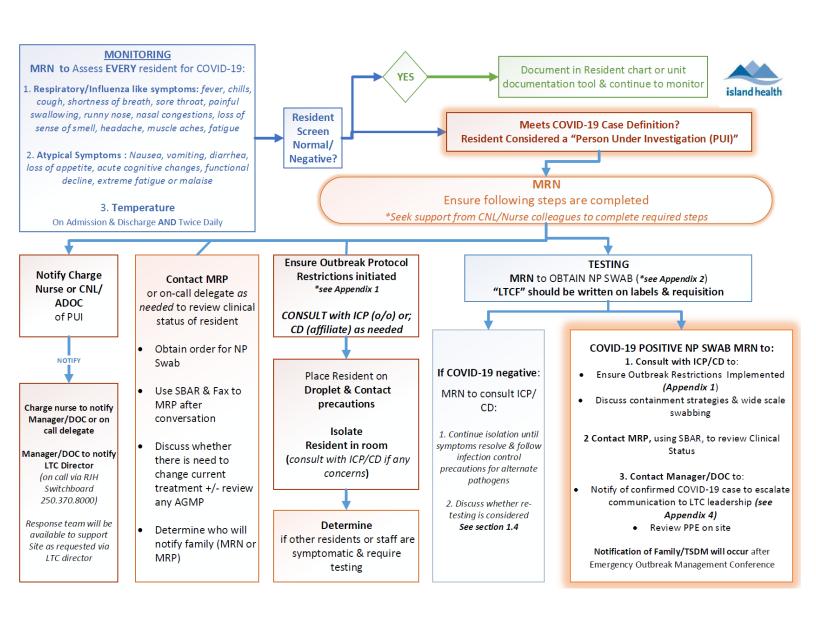
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Appendix 3: COVID-19 Protocol LTCF



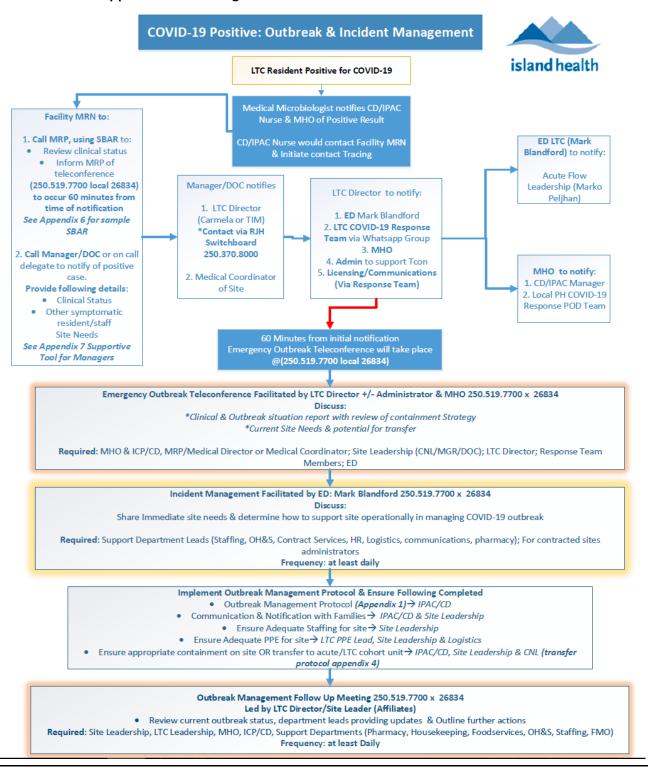
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Appendix 4: Escalating Communication COVID-19 CONFIRMED POSITIVE



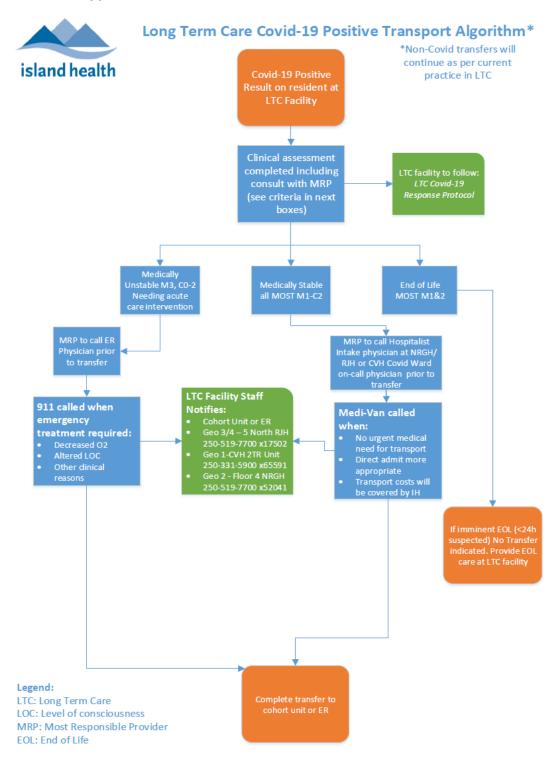
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Appendix 5: COVID-19 Confirmed Positive Transfer Protocol



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Appendix 6: LTCI SBAR EXAMPLE

	After-Hours Communication Form - SBAR Complete this form prior to calling dispatch at 1.888.686.3055			URGENT Resident issues only for After-Hours Coverage. Contact MRP during regular hours for all other issues.								
HA	HAVE READY ☐ COVID-19 Screening ** ☐ Chart & MOST☐ Completed SBAR☐ MAR				Resident Name (Last, First)							
Responding Physician (Last, First)					Resident DOB	(DD/MM/YYYY)	Resider	t PHN (10)			
D D						D D M	M Y Y Y Y					
Calle	r Name		□LPN □RN	Call Date:		Resident MRP	(Last, First)			• •		,
Facili	ity:			Call Time:		Resident Prim	ary Contact (Name & Pho	one)				
Phon	e:			Local:								
SITUATION	Reason fo Abdominate Agitation Cardiac Change in Chest pair	LOC	Confusi Cough Death (Deliriun Diabete Fall with	(unnatural) n es h injury	☐ Influenza s ☐ Lab values ☐ Medication ☐ Pain mana	(critical) error	☐ Palliative orders ☐ Query fracture ☐ Shortness of breath ☐ Skin problem ☐ Urinary concern ☐ Other (note & inform d	ispatch)	Notes:			
	Other S&S's COVID-19 Pc COVID-19 Sv COVID-19 co Any staff mer	of the residen positive: wab Collecte onfirmed / sus mbers showin	Suspected in other	ted Confirm Yes r resident(s): [f COVID-19? [nugh or □ SOB; □ ned □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes	Confusion; ☐ Fa Isolation preca Infection Contr Are any facility	ıtigue; □ Fever; □ Functi	□ No □ N/A	☐ Yes: ☐ No ☐ Yes	Contact I		
BACKGROUND	Relevant I	Medical His	story / Usu	al Functiona	Il Status							
8	7 alorgico								MOST	: M	_ or C	
ASSESSMENT	BP HR	SpO ₂ eGFR	RR Room Air Oxygen @		Assessment	** Ensure all vita	l signs & a respiratory as:	sessment	are record	ed PRIO	R to calli	ing **
AS	INR	BG	Pai	in								
RECOMMEND	Nursing R	ecommend	dations									
RESPONSE	IF RESID	ENT COV	ID-19 + : Р	hysician is to a	attend an Emer	gency Outbre	this section is to note re	leconfe	rence, 6			
	or notificat	ion, by callir	ng 200.519 .	. / / UU ext. 2	.0034. Keter to t	ne iH COVID-19	Response Protocol: Lo	ng-term	care Fac	iity for fu	urtner st	ieps.
FOLLOW-UP	1. On-Call P	hysician <i>(fax</i>	#s on second	page): □ SBA	<u>2. MRP:</u>		litional Documentation - I	□ Follow-u	up required		es □ No oryourin	
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Appendix 7: LTC Site Leadership Checklist

COVID-19: Long-term Care Site Leadership Checklist (CNL/Manager/Associate DOC/DOC or On call delegate



In preparation to support a site and ensuring you have the appropriate information for the emergency outbreak management teleconference, obtain following information:

Торіс						
Extent of Outbreak	□ What resident has tested positive? □ Has MRP been notified? □ Are they stable? Any concerns?					
	□ Has ICP/CD been contacted & outbreak protocol initiated					
	 □ What is the total number of symptomatic residents? □ What unit? Number of beds on unit? □ Other Units in proximity affected? 					
	□ Number of symptomatic staff? □ OH&S to support testing/call 1.844.901.8442 & need to call Provincial Workplace Call Center					
	□ Are there any Aerosolizing Generating Medical Procedures needing modification (on any resident)?					
	□ Number of Staff, Residents & essential visitors that have been in contact with positive index case in last 48 hours? □ Does CD nurse have these contacts? □ Sign in of staff/visitors for last 48 hrs. to be submitted to CD					
	nurse					
Availability Supplies/PPE	□ What is current Supply of PPE? □ Number of Swabs on site					
Supplies/112	□ Total number of residents on isolation & on unit that may require isolation					
	□ Total number of staff working each shift					
Staffing Levels	□ Any Issues? (i.e. shortages, anxious/concerned staff) □ Workload Requests					
Disclosure of COVID- 19 Positive Status Notification to affected resident will occur (by MRP) after emergency outbreak management teleconference						
On-Call Managers to contact Site Managers in case of COVID-19+						
Emergency Teleconference Information 250.519.7700 (local 26834)						

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