

# COVID-19

## Clinical Presentation:

- Fever > 75% but almost 50% afebrile on admission
- Cough (dry or productive) 45-80%
- Dyspnea (20-50%)
- Myalgias 10-50%
- URI Symptoms (HA, Sore throat, rhinorrhea) <15%
- GI symptoms N/V in <10%, Diarrhea < 25%
- Loss of smell 68%
- Loss of taste 33%

## Testing:

### COVID-19 Antigen test:

- Rapid TAT (no approval needed) about 2 hours
- Result in powerchart under microbiology tab:COVID Ag
- For use in Symptomatic pts within first 5 days of symptom onset
- Negative tests in symptomatic patients must be confirmed by PCR
- Higher false negative rate in patients with over 5 days of symptoms
- Not for use in patients who are asymptomatic

### COVID PCR test (Coronavirus NAA):

- Gold standard
- Most sensitive test for SARS-CoV-2
- Routine tests have around a 48 hour TAT
- Should not be repeated after an initial positive as PCR may remain positive for weeks

### SARS-COVID-2 Rapid PCR

- TAT 2 hours
- Limited rapid test access with approval needed to order
- Cannot be ordered in Cerner directly: Place an order for COVID-19 NAA & obtain a specially marked kit for collection and the lab will convert the order-> Rapid test

### SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibody test

- Order in Cerner: COVID-19 IgG
- Result- under Labs tab, Serology header: COVID-19 (SARS CoV-2) IgG Antibody
- TAT: Same-day, generally

### Indications:

Not for use in the diagnosis of acute COVID-19. Antibodies indicate past exposure to SARS-CoV-2 but this test will be negative in acute disease.

Positive results on a PCR or antigen test (but not an antibody test) are indicative of acute infection.

### Positive test in Symptomatic individuals: No confirmatory test is needed.

- Individuals should isolate for at least 10 days post symptom onset, and until at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved.

### Negative test in Symptomatic individuals: confirm with PCR

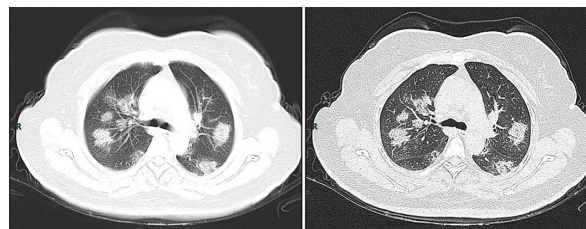
#### Asymptomatic individuals:

- Should be tested with PCR only for which no confirmation is necessary
- If tested offsite by Ag test, positives should be confirmed by PCR
- if Positive, Individuals should isolate for at least 10 days after the date the positive test was taken.



## Imaging:

- CXR: Abnormal 60%  
Severe disease 77%
- CT Chest abnormal
- Most Common chest findings:  
-GGO, Patchy consolidation > 50%
- Peripheal distribution > 50%
- Effusions < 10% (except later in course from volume resuscitation)



## Testing algorithm:

### Is the patient symptomatic ?

- Yes:

#### Did symptoms begin within the last 5 days?

- Yes -> Order COVID antigen test (Rapid test with unlimited access) and Influenza Ag
- o If positive -> dx COVID and/or Influenza
- o If negative -> must rule out false negative and send COVID PCR and if suspicion is high send Influenza Ag

- No -> Send a COVID PCR over antigen test; rapid or routine can be sent per indications and approval and send Influenza Ag

### If the patient is asymptomatic ?

- Send COVID-19 surveillance PCR
- Rapid- see indications for approval

If a confirmatory PCR test is negative after a positive antigen test, assume the antigen test was a false positive; the individual may be released from isolation unless symptoms develop or the individual was in quarantine for reasons of a known close contact.

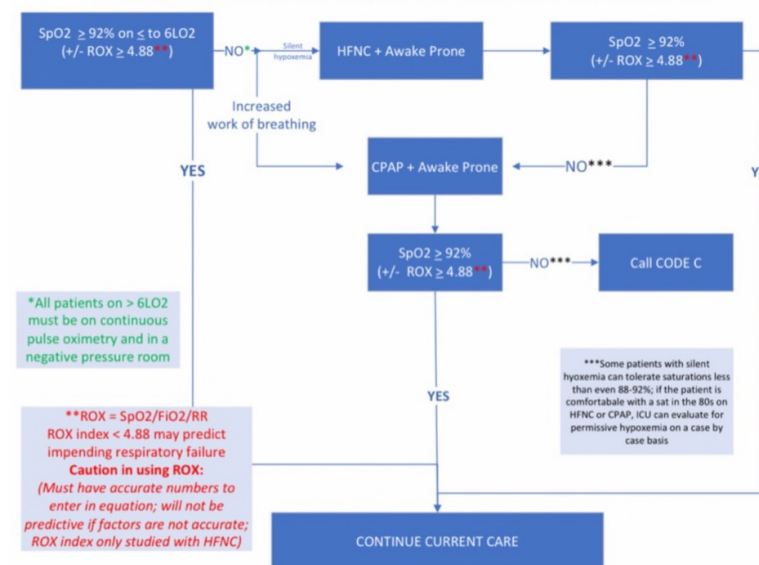
Ref: <http://lifebridgehealth.org/COVID-19/COVID-19ClinicalResources.aspx>

## Laboratory Findings:

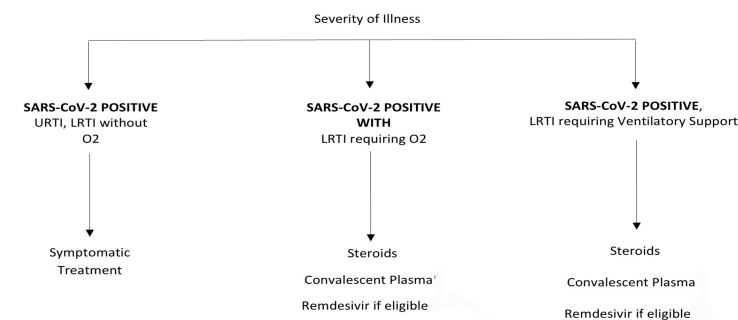
- Normal to low wbc
- Leukocytosis <25%
- Lymphopenia 33-85%
- Slight thrombocytopenia <35%
- AST/ALT increase 4-35%
- CRP increase 61-86%
- LDH increased 27-75%
- Mild INR increase
- D-Dimer elevation
- Procalcitonin low except in severe cases
- Ferritin: increased

## Treatment:

### COVID-19 ASSOCIATED HYPOXEMIA: For awake and alert patients ONLY



### ALGORITHM FOR MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH COVID-19



Management: Co-existing bacterial infection is uncommon. Antibiotic discontinuation should be considered in patients with confirmed COVID-19 and WBC and procalcitonin within normal limits.