

SCHN COVID Testing Criteria – Patients and Accompanying Parent/Carer

CRITERIA	ACTION
<p>A. Does the patient meet clinical criteria?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory symptoms • Fever without a clear source (includes vomiting) • Fever with acute diarrhoea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID test • Recommend accompanying parent/carer be tested • Isolate patient and accompanying parent/carer • Follow advice from public health if already isolating • Oncology patients on chemotherapy with fever are tested but not isolated while result pending
<p>B. Does the patient meet epidemiological criteria (with or without symptoms)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known COVID positive • Close contact of COVID positive • Has been to a case location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID test • Recommend accompanying parent/carer be tested • Isolate patient and parent/carer • Recommend other family members get tested at their local centre • Follow advice from public health
<p>C. Requires admission or in person clinic visit to hospital (and not A or B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admitted through Emergency Department (ED) • Direct admission to ward • Planned admission • Transferred from another hospital • Surgical admission (elective or emergency) • Mental Health admission • Intensive Care admission • Outpatient visit • Medical day Unit / Turner admission <p>Care and transfer to a ward is not delayed while the result is pending. Some results from private testing clinics take longer to return.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request COVID test for patients for admission or clinic visit • Recommend accompanying parent/carer be tested • Clinic visit of elective admission - family requested to arrange testing 24-72 hours before coming to hospital • Planned admission or clinic visit from ED or clinic within 72 hours – test patient and offer test to parent/carer before discharge • While the test is pending, the patient and accompanying parent/carer are cared for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In appropriate ward or clinic and not isolated if they live outside an LGA of concern as this is for surveillance ○ In appropriate ward or clinic but isolated if they live in an LGA of concern, until the test returns • The parent/carer of a patient admitted for >3 days is offered a surveillance test every 3 days
<p>D. Additional points for Operating Theatre and Intensive Care patients (and not A or B)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Intensive Care or Operating Theatre, if the COVID test is not back yet, the patient is isolated and staff wear PPE as a potential COVID case irrespective of where they live • Defer elective cases with symptomatic patients without a negative COVID result
<p>E. Test refused or not available (and not A or B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accompanying parent/carer can refuse a test. Email details of refusal to SCHN-EOC@health.nsw.gov.au • Refusal by accompanying parent/carer of a patient who meets clinical (A) or epidemiological (B) criteria - contact Public Health Unit via switch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the test for the patient is declined, isolate and treat as a potential COVID case to allow further discussion while care is provided. • If the test is declined for the accompanying parent/carer, ensure the patient receives care. Staff keep 1.5 metres from accompanying parent/carer and wear surgical mask and eye protection. If closer, staff to wear P2/N95 mask • Admission to intensive care for accompanying parent/carer without a negative test is limited and risk assessed
<p>F. Rapid tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Note these are in short supply - Tests can be ordered as urgent so they go to the front of the queue 	<p>Restricted to patients needing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time-critical intensive care treatment • Time-critical surgery • Urgent organ and tissue donation: donor + recipient
<p>Isolation is prioritised for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmed COVID positive patients 2. Patients needing AGPs that are COVID pending or COVID positive 3. Patients meeting clinical and epidemiological criteria 4. Patients meeting epidemiological criteria 	