Saskatchewan Health Authority	**Title:** Updating COVID Screening, Isolation and COVID Swab Columns on SCM Facility Boards **Role performing Activity:** Nursing

WORK STANDARD	**Location:** Saskatchewan Health Authority	**Department/Unit:** Locations with SCM Facility Boards: Emergency Departments, Inpatient Units
	Document Owner: Infection Prevention and Control	**Date Prepared:** June 23, 2020
	Last Revision: August 19, 2020	**Date Approved:** July 7, 2020
	Related Policies/Documentation • *Department-specific COVID-19 screening form* • **CV-19-A0001-COVID-19 Acute Care Placement and Precautions Algorithm**	

Work Standard Summary: Provide guidance for Nursing to choose the appropriate options on the SCM Facility Board's *COVID Screening, Isolation,* and *COVID Swab* columns due to the outcome of the patient's COVID-19 screening form. *Contact your local Infection Prevention & Control office with any questions.*

	Essential Tasks:

1.	Upon registration to the emergency/admitting department, the patient is assessed using the ***department-specific COVID-19 screening form.***
	
	The outcome of the COVID-19 screening form is either "Screened Positive" or "Screened Negative":
	
	• "Screened Positive" = The patient answers "Yes" to <u>ANY</u> of the COVID-19 screening form questions
	
	• "Screened Negative" = The patient answered "No" to <u>ALL</u> of the COVID-19 screening form questions
	
	The outcome of the form determines which options are chosen by Nursing for updating the following columns on the SCM Facility Board:
	   ○ *COVID Screening* (see Task 2.)
	   ○ *Isolation* (see Task 3.)
	   ○ *COVID Swab* (see Task 4.)

2.	***COVID Screening* Column Options** (see further details below)**:** **Sym - POS Screen** **Asym - POS Screen** **Asym - NEG Screen** **Unable to screen - POS Screen** **Sym – POS Screen – Alt Dx**

Sym - POS Screen
- Short for *Symptomatic - Positive Screen*
- Patient requires Droplet & Contact Plus precautions

- Use this option when the patient answers "Yes" to any of the COVID-19 symptom-related questions on the Screening Form or shows symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., fever, new or worsening respiratory symptoms, etc.).
  - The patient <u>may or may not</u> answer "Yes" to other risk factor/exposure criteria questions (i.e., travel, close contact, etc.).

Asym - POS Screen
- Short for *Asymptomatic - Positive Screen*
- Patient requires Droplet & Contact Plus precautions

- Use this option when the patient answers "Yes" to any of the COVID-19 risk factor/exposure criteria questions on the Screening Form (i.e., travel, close contact, etc.) **AND** the patient <u>does not</u> have symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., fever, new or worsening respiratory symptoms, etc.).

Asym - NEG Screen
- Short for *Asymptomatic - Negative Screen*
- Additional precautions not indicated for COVID-19

- Use this option when the patient answers "No" to all the Screening Form questions (no symptoms and no risk factors/exposure criteria for COVID-19).

Unable to screen - POS Screen
- Short for *Unable to Screen - Positive Screen*
- Patient requires Droplet & Contact Plus precautions

- Use this option with patients when they or their support persons are <u>unable to answer the Screening Form questions</u>. In the absence of information, it is assumed that that the patient may have some risk factors/exposure criteria.

Sym – POS Screen – Alt Dx
- Short for *Symptomatic – Positive Screen – Alternative Diagnosis*
- Additional precautions not indicated for COVID-19, <u>however</u>, the patient <u>may</u> require additional precautions (i.e., Droplet/Contact precautions), to prevent transmission of other infectious organisms (i.e., Rhinovirus).

- Use this option with patients when their Most Responsible Physician (MRP) has determined they have an alternative diagnosis for their symptoms that <u>are not related to COVID-19</u> **AND** they have determined the patient has no other risk factors/exposure-related criteria for having COVID-19 (i.e., the patient has a fever due to a diagnosis of appendicitis). Refer to the "**CV-19-A0002-Modifications of Precautions for COVID-19 Negative Inpatients and Residents**" algorithm.

3.	**Isolation Column Options:**
	
	There are various options to choose from to identify the type of additional precautions (isolation) a patient needs to be placed on based on their presentation.
	
	For COVID-19, the outcome of the COVID-19 screening form ("Screened Positive" or "Screened Negative") determines the type of additional precautions required:
	
	• "Screened Positive" = Droplet/Contact Plus precautions for COVID-19
	
	• "Screened Negative" = Droplet/Contact Plus precautions not required for COVID-19*
	    ○ ***NOTE:**
	        ▪ The patient may require additional precautions (i.e., Droplet/Contact precautions) to prevent transmission of other infectious organisms (i.e., Rhinovirus).
	        ▪ The patient would require Droplet/Contact Plus precautions if their COVID-19 swab comes back positive. Refer to the "**CV-19-A0001-COVID-19 Acute Care Placement and Precautions Algorithm**".

4.	**COVID Swab Column Options:** <mark>PENDING</mark> • COVID-19 swab has been collected and result is pending <mark>DECLINED</mark> • Patient declined having COVID-19 swab collected <mark style="background:red">POSITIVE</mark> • COVID-19 swab result is positive (patient requires Droplet/Contact Plus precautions) **NEGATIVE** • COVID-19 swab result is negative (refer to the "**CV-19-A0002-Modifications of Precautions for COVID-19 Negative Inpatients and Residents**" algorithm for possible adjustments to additional precautions based on the MRP's assessment) **For COVID-19, additional precautions required are not determined by the patient's COVID-19 swab results.**

5.	Throughout the patient's stay, their COVID-19 screening status may change and should be reviewed on a regular basis (i.e., when the patient develops COVID-19 symptoms or becomes a close contact to a positive case, etc.).
	
	When their status changes, Nursing will update the following columns on the SCM Facility Board as required by the situation (refer to the *department-specific COVID-19 screening form*):
	    ○ *COVID Screening* (see Task 2.)
	    ○ *Isolation* (see Task 3.)
	    ○ *COVID Swab* (see Task 4.)
	
	See **"Appendix A – COVID-19 Screening Scenarios"** for examples.

NOTE: Refer to the "**CV-19-A0001-COVID-19 Acute Care Placement and Precautions Algorithm**" to apply the outcome of the *department-specific COVID-19 screening forms***:**

1. The patient is asymptomatic, "Screens Negative" and, although encouraged, decides to decline a swab for COVID-19:
   - The Nurse updates the *COVID Screening* column to **Asym - NEG Screen**, the *Isolation* column based on the patient's presentation, and the *COVID Swab* column to **DECLINED**.

   A week into their stay, the patient develops respiratory symptoms:
   - The Nurse changes the *COVID Screening* column to **Sym - POS Screen** and the *Isolation* column to "Droplet/Contact Plus" precautions.

2. The patient is asymptomatic, "Screens Positive" and agrees to have a swab collected for COVID-19:
   - The Nurse updates the *COVID Screening* column to **Asym - POS Screen**, the *Isolation* column to "Droplet/Contact Plus" precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **PENDING.**

   The patient has been in hospital for over two weeks without developing any symptoms of COVID-19 and their COVID-19 swab has come back negative. The MRP has determined they may now be stepped down to Routine Precautions:
   - The Nurse changes the *COVID Screening* column to **Asym - NEG Screen**, the *Isolation* column to "Routine" precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **NEGATIVE.**

3. The patient is asymptomatic, "Screens Negative" and agrees to have a swab collected for COVID-19:
   - The Nurse updates the *COVID Screening* column to **Asym - NEG Screen**, the *Isolation* column based on the patient's presentation, and the *COVID Swab* column to **PENDING**.

   The patient's COVID-19 swab result has come back positive:
   - The Nurse changes the *COVID Screening* column to **Asym - POS Screen**, the *Isolation* column to Droplet/Contact Plus precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **POSITIVE**.

   Three weeks later, the MRP determines the patient is not considered infectious for COVID-19 and steps down the precautions to "Routine":
   - The Nurse changes the *COVID Screening* column back to **Asym - NEG Screen**, the *Isolation* column to "Routine" precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **NEGATIVE**.

4. The patient is symptomatic (respiratory), "Screens Positive" (only because symptomatic), and agrees to have a swab collected for COVID-19:
   - The Nurse updates the *COVID Screening* column to **Sym - POS Screen**, the *Isolation* column to "Droplet/Contact Plus" precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **PENDING**.

   On Day 2, the patient's COVID-19 swab comes back negative. The MRP determines their respiratory symptoms are related to their infection with Rhinovirus and decides to step down the precautions to "Droplet/Contact":
   - The Nurse changes the *COVID Screening* column to **Sym – POS Screen – Alt Dx**, the *Isolation* column to "Droplet/Contact" precautions, and the *COVID Swab* column to **NEGATIVE**.