

<b>TITLE:</b> ECT COVID-19 Testing for AGMP (Central Zone)	<b>NUMBER:</b>
Sponsor: <b>Matthew White, Director Central Zone Mental Health and Addictions</b>	Page: 1 of 4
Approved by: <b>Dana Pulsifer, Senior Director, Mental Health and Addictions</b>	Approval Date: 14DEC2020 Effective Date: 14DEC2020 Date: 29DEC2021 09DEC2022
Applies To: <b>Central Zone ECT Clinic</b>	

## PREAMBLE

Clients arriving for electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) treatment will be assessed for COVID-19 Risk using the [Acute Viral Respiratory Infection Risk Assessment: Ambulatory settings](#).

Appropriate precautions are applied as per:

- [Nova Scotia Health Protocols for a Safe Recovery](#)
- [COVID-19 testing for Patients undergoing an AGMP](#)

If patient does not have an identified Acute Viral Respiratory Infection risk:

- proceed using routine practices.
- other airborne practices are not required (e.g., room clearance, special cleaning, etc.)

If the patient has an identified Acute Viral Respiratory Infection risk, the procedure should be delayed if possible.

- If the procedure cannot be safely delayed, send the patient for COVID-19 PCR within 48 hours prior to procedure.
- If patient is positive for COVID-19, perform procedure under airborne & droplet & contact precautions.
- If PCR is negative, perform procedure under droplet and contact precautions

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Seq. No	Task Description	Key Point/ Image/ Measure (what does good look like?)	Who
1	<u>OUTPATIENTS</u> Clients are contacted by phone at least 48 hours in advance of their scheduled ECT treatment to complete a pre-appointment screening using the risk criteria as per the <a href="#">Acute Viral Respiratory Infection Risk Assessment: Ambulatory settings</a>	Outpatients are screened for acute viral respiratory infection prior to treatment.	ECT Team

	<p>Swab requirements are based on the pre-procedure risk assessment. If there are no risk factors identified, no swab is required prior to treatment.</p> <p>If risk factors are identified, a swab is required within 48 hours of the procedure.</p> <p>Patient/family/caregiver reminded to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor for symptoms consistent with acute viral respiratory infection</li> <li>• Wear a face mask to their appointment</li> <li>• Limit trips outside the home to those that are essential and minimize non-household visitors while in treatment</li> </ul>	Identify if there is indication for a COVID-19 swab prior to treatment.	
2	<p>During the pre-screening phone call, if a COVID-19 swab is indicated prior to treatment, the patient/family/caregiver will be asked to book an appointment for testing at a <a href="#">COVID-19 Testing Centre</a> that is most convenient for them.</p> <p>If the patient/family/caregiver are not familiar with this process, staff will walk through the process with them. For subsequent swab appointments, a copy of the requisition for swabbing will be provided to the patient/family/caregiver to bring to the COVID-19 Testing Centre at the time of their scheduled appointment.</p>	If swab is indicated, patient/family/ caregiver to book a test at COVID-19 Testing Centre within 48 hours of treatment.	
3	<p>Swab results will be reviewed promptly upon receipt.</p> <p>If not received, swab results are to be verified via Clinical Portal or by contacting the lab for results.</p>	Verify swab results.	RN/LPN
4	<p>If COVID Negative and symptomatic with respiratory symptoms <u>OR</u> COVID Negative and asymptomatic with exposure considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DROPLET/CONTACT precautions only. Staff may choose to don a N95 respirator based on individual point-of-care risk assessment, but it is not required for AGMP.</li> </ul> <p>If COVID result not available <u>AND</u> symptomatic with respiratory symptoms or asymptomatic with exposure considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss risks/benefits of proceeding with treatment. If case proceeds, apply droplet and contact and airborne precautions. As per <a href="#">AEROSOL GENERATING MEDICAL PROCEDURES IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS</a> document.</li> </ul> <p>If swab results are positive, physician notified immediately for further direction. Contact IPAC to follow-up as appropriate.</p>	Swab result instructions.	RN/LPN
5	<p><u>INPATIENTS</u></p> <p>Individuals on a MHA inpatient unit scheduled to receive ECT treatment will be continually screened as</p>	Inpatient Clients are monitored for COVID-19 Risk Factors.	Inpatient Unit Staff

	<p>per <a href="#">COVID-19 Symptom Monitoring for Inpatients in Acute Care</a>.</p> <p>Swab requirements are based on the pre-procedure risk assessment. If there are no for acute viral respiratory infection risk factors identified, no swab is required prior to treatment.</p> <p>When a swab is indicated, individuals will be swabbed by inpatient staff using the <a href="#">Care Directive - Asymptomatic Testing for COVID-19 (NSHA CD-CL-002, IWK CL-795)</a> no more than 48 hours before each treatment.</p> <p>Documentation in the health record to include consent, and other appropriate documentation.</p>		
6	<p>Swab results will be reviewed promptly upon receipt.</p> <p>If not received, swab results are to be verified via Clinical Portal or by contacting the lab for results.</p>	Verify swab results.	RN/LPN
7	<p>If COVID Negative and symptomatic with respiratory symptoms <u>OR</u> COVID Negative and asymptomatic with exposure considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPLET/CONTACT precautions only. Staff may choose to don a N95 respirator based on individual point-of-care risk assessment, but it is not required for AGMP.</li> </ul> <p>If COVID result not available <u>AND</u> symptomatic with respiratory symptoms or asymptomatic with exposure considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss risks/benefits of proceeding with treatment. If case proceeds, apply droplet and contact and airborne precautions. As per <a href="#">AEROSOL GENERATING MEDICAL PROCEDURES IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS</a> document.</li> </ul> <p>If swab results are positive, physician notified immediately for further direction. Contact IPAC to follow-up as appropriate</p>	Swab result instructions.	RN/LPN

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

**Policies**

- [Nasopharyngeal Swab Collection and Screening for Respiratory Illness](#) (IPC-SC-001)
- [Airborne Precautions](#) (IPC-RP-025)
- [Care Directive - Testing for COVID-19 \(IWK CL-790, NSHA CD-CL-003\)](#)

**Guidelines**

- [Nova Scotia Health COVID-19 protocols for a safe recovery July 2021 - May 1, 2022](#)
- [COVID-19: Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures in Healthcare Settings](#)

## **Forms**

[Acute Viral Respiratory Infection Risk assessment: Ambulatory Settings](#)  
[COVID-19 Symptom Monitoring for Inpatients in Acute Care](#)

## **Other**

[Collection Instructions for Nasopharyngeal Swab for Respiratory Viruses](#)  
[COVID-19 testing for Patients undergoing an AGMP](#)