![opendoor Community Health Centers]	COVID-19 TESTING & TREATMENT	STANDARDIZED PROCEDURE
Enacted: 1/13/2023	Owner: Director of Clinical Services	Revision Date:

OVERVIEW:
To authorize Registered Nurses within the Open Door Community Health Care clinics (ODCHC) to provide efficient testing and indicated treatment of Covid-19 to ODCHC patients. An assigned provider must be available for consult remotely if not on site.

RESPONSIBILITY:
Clinical Guidelines Committee (CGC): update clinical algorithms related to this standardized procedure based on the most current information from approved organizations.
Director of Clinical Services (DCS): create and regularly review this standardized procedure, consult with the CGC regarding updates to algorithms and sign with VP of Clinical Services prior to implementation.
Registered Nurses (RNs): will complete a training and competency checklist for this standardized procedure during their orientation, prior to performing independently.
RN Clinic Managers (RNCMs): will monitor RNs at their site for accurate and appropriate use of this standardized procedure and serve as a resource when needed.
SVP of Clinical Services (SVPCS): sign and date this standardized procedure authorizing the use for RNs within the organization.

DEFINITIONS:
Asymptomatic Patients: patients who do not have any symptoms related to Covid-19 and are requesting testing due to exposure, preoperative clearance, living in long term care, assistive or congregate living, health care workers, students or essential workers.
Symptomatic Patients: patients with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 infection.
Rapid Antigen Test: a type of immunoassays that detects the presence of a specific viral antigen, which implies current viral infection. Specific brand availability will vary and may include *BinaxNOW* and *CareStart*, which can be used at the point-of-care and return results in 15 minutes. This also includes test kits that patients are able to administer at home.
PCR Test: a type of molecular test that detects genetic material of the virus using a lab technique called polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Specific brand availability will vary and may include *Cepheid*, which can be used at the point-of-care and return results in 45 minutes. Other PCR tests include sending out the test sample to Public Health Lab or LabCorp with varying process times.

DEVELOPMENT AND REVISION
All ODCHC Standardized Nursing Procedures have been developed by the DCS under the direction of the SVPCS and reviewed by the CGC to verify clinical accuracy and compliance with Division of Allied Health Professions of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance and by the Board of Registered Nursing. This standardized procedure is associated with clinical algorithms created by medical leadership, which are updated frequently based on the most current guidelines from California Public Health Department (CPHD) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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TRAINING AND COMPETENCY
ODCHC Nurses will complete a training checklist for Standardized Procedures during their orientation prior to performing independently. Training checklists will be stored in their personal file by the Learning and Development Department upon completion. Competency will be monitored annually through chart review and feedback from providers and supervisor.

PROCEDURE:
ODCHC RNs may order and perform Covid-19 testing during RN visits for patients based on the ODCHC Covid-19 Testing Algorithm. Anytime a symptomatic patient needs further evaluation due to assessment of illness severity, the visit must be transferred to a provider's schedule for further assessment or directed to emergency services if exhibiting severe symptoms. All infection prevention and control practices must be followed.

Assessment:
Prior to ordering test, the RN must complete the following assessment:
- Vitals
- Onset of symptoms if present
- Timeline of potential or actual exposure
- Presence of symptoms, such as:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue/weakness
  - Myalgia
  - Headache
  - Anosmia (loss of smell) or dysgeusia (loss of taste)
  - Rhinorrhea or congestion
  - Sore throat, coryza
  - Diarrhea
  - Anorexia, nausea or vomiting
  - Altered mental status
- Absence of symptoms, but requesting same day results, due to:
  - Exposure
  - Living in long-term care, assisted living or congregate setting
  - Preoperative patients (elective procedures, some facilities only accept PCR)
  - Pregnant patients scheduled or close to due date
- Review Covid-19 Immunization History
- Gather history of any previous COVID-19 infections or treatments
- Comorbidities

Testing:

After completing assessment and determining appropriateness of test based on the ODCHC Covid-19 Testing Algorithm the RN may:

- Order Rapid Antigen Test
  - BinaxNOW (LBS249)
  - CareStart (LHS023)
- Collect sample from upper respiratory tract:
  - Use correct swab to collect a nasal mid-turbinate specimen from both nostrils
  - Tilt patient's head back 70 degrees and insert flexible swab through the nares parallel to the palate and gently rub and roll the swab.

Diagnosis:

RNs will interpret results based on COVID Testing Algorithm. Positive home results can be accepted and must be entered into chart as historical with test date.

Treatment: Oral COVID-1 antivirals such as Paxlovid (ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir) and Legevrio (molnupiravir), are effective in preventing severe outcomes (hospitalization or death). These antivirals should be started within five (5) days of symptom onset.

- Initiation of treatment protocol, requires reviewing the following factors:
  - Assess renal and liver function by reviewing recent laboratory blood work (lack of recent renal or liver function tests is not reason to withhold treatment as the FDE EUA does not require it).
    - No known or suspected severe renal impairment (eGFR $\leq$30 mL/min)
    - No known or suspected severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class C)
  - Patients symptoms are not classified as severe or critical, requiring hospitalization.
  - Review all medications, including PRN (as needed) medications, herbal supplements and over the counter medications and utilize available resources to verify any drug interactions:
    - Online Drug Interaction checker from University of Liverpool
    - Treatment guidelines from NIH
    - Consult with pharmacist
  - List of all known medication allergies and any significant hypersensitivity reactions to the active ingredients of Covid-19 antivirals.
- Refer to Outpatient Treatment Options for Covid-19 with Mild to Moderate Symptoms (non-pregnant patients older than age +12) Algorithm to determine appropriate treatment based on age, weight, pregnancy status, renal status, onset of symptoms and risk for development of severe disease.
- If consult is necessary, the RN may approach Primary Care Provider or Site Medical Director for guidance.

Documentation:

- Provide patient education following the CDC evidence-based practices. Refer to resources at the end of this document.
- RNs will use organizational smart phrase *.ODRNCOVIDTESTING*. All documentation must be

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clear and comprehensive.
- o For an asymptomatic patient encounter, a level of service TXOO1 must be used.
- o For a symptomatic patient encounter, a level service 99211 can be used.

REFERENCES:
CDC Covid-19 Treatment Options, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/treatments-for-severe-illness.html
Covid-19 Treatment Guidelines from NIH
https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/antivirals-including-antibody-products/ritonavir-boosted-nirmatrelvir--paxlovid-/
Division of Allied Health Professions of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance and by the Board of Registered Nursing
University of Liverpool Covid-19 Drug interaction Checker
https://www.covid19-druginteractions.org/checker

Resources for Prescribing Providers on Oral Covid-19 Antivirals:
Paxlovid (ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir):
- FDA's Fact sheet for health providers: https://www.fda.gov/media/155050/download
- FDA's PAXLOVID Checklist Tool for Prescribers: https://www.fda.gov/media/158165/download
- Lagevrio (molnupiravir*):*
  FDA's Fact sheet for health providers: https://www.fda.gov/media/155054/download
- FDA's Molnupiravir Checklist *Tool for Prescribers:https://www.fda.gov/media/155118/download*

Resources for Patients/Caregivers on Oral Covid-19 Antivirals:
- FDA's Paxlovid Fact Sheet for Patients and Caregivers
  https://www.fda.gov/media/155051/download
- FDA's Molnupiravir Fact Sheet for Patients and Caregivers:
  https://www.fda.gov/media/155055/download

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:
Covid-19 Triage Algorithm
Covid-19 Testing Algorithm
Outpatient Treatment Options for COVID-19 with Mild to Moderate Symptoms (Age 12+)
Standardized Procedure Training Checklist

KEYWORD TAGS:
Covid-19, Antiviral, Test to Treat

Authorizing Signature and Date

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