NOTICE TO THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER

The patient giving you this notice was recently in an area experiencing an outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) or was exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 and may have signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Other more common respiratory infections should also be considered in the differential diagnosis. If the patient has fever, cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, or other symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection, please do the following immediately:

□ Instruct patient to wear a mask covering both the nose and the mouth and apply hand sanitizer to their hands.
□ Isolate the patient in a private room. If patient must sit in the waiting room, instruct them to sit away from others and practice respiratory etiquette.
  • Place patient in an Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR) if available. An AIIR should meet current standards, including:
    o Providing at least six (existing facility) or 12 (new construction/renovation) air changes per hour.
    o Directing exhaust of air to the outside.
    o If an AIIR does not directly exhaust to the outside, the air may be returned to the air-handling system or adjacent spaces if all air is directed through HEPA filters.
  • If AIIR is unavailable, place them in a private examination room with the door closed. Do not reuse this room for other patients until instructed by Public Health.

□ Use standard, contact, droplet, and airborne precautions when interacting with the patient including:
  • Hand hygiene before donning gloves and before contact with the patient or environment.
  • Gloves.
  • Fluid resistant gown.
  • NIOSH-approved and fit-tested N95 mask
    o OR Controlled Air Purifying Respiratory (CAPR)/Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR).
  • Eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield).
  • Hand hygiene after removing gloves and after contact with the patient or environment.

□ Limit the number of staff entering the room and document which staff have contact with the patient
□ Notify local health authority (LHA) immediately for further guidance on patient management, evaluation, or transfer. If the LHA is not available, call the Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health.


1 Public health departments in Nevada:
  • Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health: (775) 684-5911 (M-F 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM), (775) 400-0333 (after hours).
  • In Clark County, contact the Southern Nevada Health District: (702) 759-1300 (24 hours).
  • In Washoe County, contact Washoe County Health District: (775) 328-2447 (24 hours).
  • In Carson City and Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties, contact Carson City Health and Human Services: (775) 887-2190 (24 hours).