

Who will be eligible for this?

Adults with:

Confirmed COVID-19

OR

Suspected COVID-19

OR

Unexplained respiratory symptoms including of breath, new cough, influenza-like illness *after* exclusion of exacerbation of long term conditions

AND

No evidence of life threatening or severe disease severity requiring immediate inpatient management Not in need of emergency care

Assessment pathway – Escalation routes (Primary Care)

The below provides a guide to the different levels of service available for COVID patients based on acuity and level of care required. This is a guide and above all, clinical judgement should be used to determine the most appropriate setting for patient care. Escalation/de-escalation between the levels of service is described further in the other pathways. Palliative Care/End of life services should be considered in decisions on patient management, particularly when deciding to escalate care.

Who to manage in Primary Care CO@H

- Patient cohort:**
- O₂ saturations \geq 95%
 - Mild clinical assessment +/- mild symptoms
 - Presence of vulnerabilities
 - Absence of significant comorbidities

Level of care:

- Pulse oximetry

Frequency of contact:

2-3/week as per NHSE SOP
- (e.g. day 2, 5, 7, 10 and 12)

Who to refer to A&E / call 999

Patient cohort:

Signs & Symptoms:

- O₂ saturations: $<$ 95% (or \geq 3% less than usual) or drop in saturations
- Any of RR $>$ 20, HR $>$ 90, NEWS2 \geq 3
- Deteriorating symptoms or other clinical concern

Any other circumstance where ongoing community management no longer felt to be appropriate

Call **999** or discuss with **Medical registrar on call**

Who to refer to HCT COVID Virtual Ward

Patient cohort:

- Maintaining O₂ saturations \geq 95% **AND**
 - Higher acuity patients that can no longer be managed in primary care due to:
 - Complications e.g. falls and/or confusion
 - Significant comorbidities, e.g. underlying respiratory conditions (asthma/COPD/Interstitial Lung Disease/Bronchiectasis), diabetes etc.
 - Other clinical concern due to complexity.
- **OR** Patients identified as for palliative care and requiring specialist palliative care e.g. syringe driver

Call the HCT Hub on **03001237571** (8am – 8pm)