Guidance for Healthcare Providers for a Patient possibly infected with COVID-19

1) Assess patient for international travel from countries with travel restrictions: China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Japan, in the past 14 days. This is subject to change so visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html for the most current listing.


3) Isolate patient in a room with a surgical facemask. Ensure staff in contact with patient use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Gloves, isolation gown and N-95 with eye protection is recommended for healthcare workers.

4) Call the Garrett County Health Department at 301-334-7770 or 301-895-3111 during office hours (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.).

   If after hours or weekends, call 301-334-1930 which is the Garrett County Emergency Management and Public Safety Department. They will contact health department staff to assist in determining if testing is warranted for COVID-19.

5) If criteria to test is met and approval is given to collect specimens, proceed to collect viral cultures: two nasopharyngeal and one oropharyngeal, if able to do so in your facility. If unable to collect specimens in your facility an alternative plan will be discussed during the phone call with health department staff.

6) If in your clinical judgement the patient is in respiratory distress and needs transported for further evaluation or hospitalization, notify the Nursing Supervisor at GRMC at 301-533-4533 in advance to let them know the patient is coming. If the patient is unable to self-transport or be transported by another person, call 911 as a last resort.