Novel Coronavirus Screening Tool for Public Health and Health Links

**Purpose:** this tool is intended to assist with calls from the community about novel coronavirus (COVID-19), specifically to determine if a caller should be investigated for COVID-19.

**Disease information:** COVID-19 management protocol and information available at: [https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/coronavirus.html](https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/coronavirus.html)

**Risk Assessment: Initial Screening Questions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Do you have any of the below symptoms?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fever &gt; 38°C or subjective fever</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cough</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Shortness of breath/breathing difficulties</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Other symptoms such as muscle aches, fatigue, headache, sore throat, runny nose, diarrhea. Note symptoms in young children may be non-specific – e.g. lethargy, poor feeding.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Have you travelled in the last 14 days to Hubei Province (including Wuhan) in China, Iran, or Italy?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Have you travelled internationally in the last 14 days?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Have you had close contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) with someone who is ill with cough and/or fever who has traveled internationally within 14 days prior to their illness onset? (Contact may be in Canada or during travel)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Have you been in contact in the last 14 days with someone that is confirmed to be a case of COVID-19?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Have you had laboratory exposure while working directly with specimens known to contain COVID-19?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Advice:**

- **If NO to question 1-6:** no further assessment is required. Provide reassurance/education. If they develop symptoms in the next 14 days, provide general advice.
- **If YES to question 1 and any one of question 2, 3, 5 or 6 (symptomatic with exposure history):** Recommend:
  - Triage for medical assessment – these individuals require assessment/testing.
    - The individual should be assessed in their local urgent care center or emergency room.
    - Public health/ Health Links should call ahead and advise the facility that an individual with a history of international travel in the previous 14 days or a contact of COVID-19 will be attending the facility and have symptoms of COVID-19.
    - Inform the individual that they will be provided with a mask to wear and will be isolated upon arrival.
  - For Health Links, refer to public health for follow-up.
• If YES to question 1 and question 4 (symptomatic with less certain exposure history) – Recommend:
  o Further assessment is required to determine their risk of exposure to COVID-19.
    ▪ If symptoms are mild (e.g. upper respiratory tract symptoms), recommend observing symptoms, to call back if symptoms worsen, and self-isolate at home until symptoms are completely resolved. If symptoms worsen, they should be assessed in their local urgent care center or emergency room, and ensure they call ahead and inform them of their travel history.
    ▪ If symptoms require health care assessment (e.g. shortness of breath/breathing difficulties):
      • the individual should be assessed in their local urgent care center or emergency room.
      • Public health/ Health Links should call ahead and advise the facility that a contact of an ill international traveller will be attending the facility and have symptoms of COVID-19.
      • Inform the individual that they will be provided with a mask to wear and will be isolated upon arrival.
    o For Health Links, refer to public health. In general, public health will not follow-up on these referrals unless there is a specific exposure of concern (i.e. a newly identified area of transmission that is not yet on the list, or high risk exposures such as health care exposures to ill individuals). Public health in some regions may follow-up to provide education on self-isolation while symptomatic, but this is not a province-wide approach.

• If YES to question 1 only (symptomatic with no travel and/or exposure history) – Recommend:
  o Provide reassurance/ education on coronavirus and other respiratory pathogens. Provide general advice for respiratory symptoms including handwashing and cough etiquette and triage according to standard process.
  o A referral to public health is NOT required.

Asymptomatic Clients (note for all below scenarios, if they become symptomatic, follow above advice for symptomatic clients)

• If YES to question 2 only (asymptomatic travelers who have been in Hubei, Iran, or Italy) – Recommend:
  o limit their contact with others for 14 days following their departure from the area (recommend self-isolation – refer to self-isolation fact sheet)
  o self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days following their return to Canada. Note that the period of time for self-isolation may differ from the period for self-monitoring if the individual travelled outside of Hubei, Iran, or Italy before returning to Canada.
  o For Health Links, refer to public health and advise the caller that public health will be contacting them with additional information. Public health to follow Guidance Public Health Measures.
  o If symptoms develop, inform the individual that they need to call public health or Health Links to advise the facility that they are a traveller to Hubei, Iran, or Italy
and have symptoms. They will be provided with a mask to wear and will be isolated upon arrival.

- **If YES to question 3 only (asymptomatic international travelers)** – Recommend:
  - Self-monitor for signs and symptoms for 14 days following their return to Canada.
  - If any symptoms develop, inform the individual that they need to be assessed and tested. They should call Health Links to advise the facility that they have travelled internationally within the previous 14 days. They will be provided with a mask to wear and will be isolated upon arrival.
  - A referral to public health is \textbf{NOT} required.

- **If YES to question 4 only (asymptomatic contact to ill international traveler)** – Recommend:
  - Self-monitoring for signs and symptoms for 14 days after last exposure.
  - If any symptoms develop, inform the individual to call Health Links to determine if they need to be assessed.
  - A referral to public health is \textbf{NOT} required.

- **If YES to question 5 or 6 only (asymptomatic contact to a case or laboratory exposure, regardless of travel history)** – Recommend:
  - Limit their contact with others for 14 days after last exposure (recommend \textbf{self-isolation} – refer to self-isolation fact sheet)
  - Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days after last exposure.
  - For Health Links, refer to public health and advise the caller that public health will be contacting them with additional information. Public health to follow Guidance Public Health Measures – active daily monitoring.
  - If symptoms develop, inform the individual that they need to call public health or Health Links to advise the facility that they have symptoms and are a close contact to COVID-19. They will be provided with a mask to wear and will be isolated upon arrival.