

# Examples of Triage Algorithms

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/non-us-settings/tools-resources.html>

Countries with no or limited community transmission (cases in the community are linked to known chain of transmission)

## Triage of patients with suspected COVID-19 (no or limited community transmission)

**Identify** common signs and symptoms of COVID-19:

- Acute onset of fever (>38°C or history of fever) and cough\*
- OR-
- At least 3 signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., cough, myalgia, headache, sore throat, loss of smell or taste)

No  
→

Continue with usual triage, assessment and care

Yes  
↓

**Place medical mask on patient**

**Identify Travel and Direct Exposure History:**

- Has the patient traveled or resided in another country where COVID-19 is spreading during the 14 days prior to symptom onset?
- or -
- Has the patient had contact with an individual with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 during the 14-days prior to symptom onset?

No  
→

Continue with usual triage, assessment and care

Yes  
↓

**Separate from other patients:**

- Place the patient in a single-person well-ventilated room with the door closed or in other designated area
- Ensure healthcare workers (HCW) caring for the patient adhere to Standard, Contact, and Droplet Precautions
- Only essential HCW with designated roles should enter the room and wear appropriate personal protective equipment

**Inform:** Notify the hospital infection control program and other appropriate staff

\*Elderly or immunosuppressed people may not develop fever, but atypical symptoms (e.g., reduced mobility, confusion) or new-onset of cough or worsening respiratory symptoms. In countries where fever-inducing pathogens (e.g., malaria, dengue) are not endemic, fever alone can be used as a sole criterium for COVID-19.

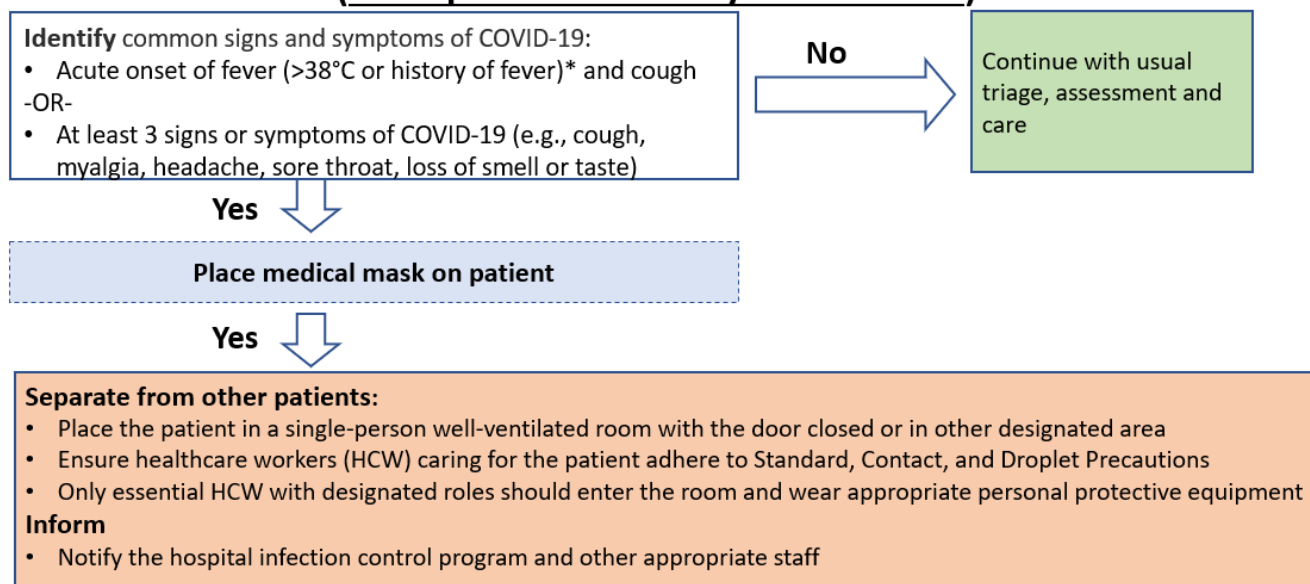


[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/global-covid-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/global-covid-19)

Countries with widespread community transmission (inability to relate confirmed cases though chains of transmission for large number of COVID-19 cases)

### Triage of patients with suspected COVID-19 (widespread community transmission)



\* Elderly or immunosuppressed people may not develop fever, but atypical symptoms (e.g., reduced mobility, confusion) or new-onset of cough or worsening respiratory symptoms. In countries where fever-inducing pathogens (e.g., malaria, dengue) are not endemic, fever alone can be used as a sole criterium for COVID-19.

