



Job Action Sheet

(Triage Staff) _____

Responsible Staff: _____

- Read this entire sheet.
- Document the time at which patient is triaged on the patient's ED record.
- Perform Highly Communicable Disease Triage Screen on patients **who self-identify as having fever or who have fever on triage exam.**
 - ✓ In the past 2 weeks have you had?
 - Fever (elevated temperatures)?
 - Cough?
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
 - Rash or unusual skin lesions?
 - Do any of the people who you have close contact with at home, work or your friends have similar symptoms?

For patients reporting fever and respiratory/rash symptoms:

- Have you traveled outside the United States or had close contact with someone who has recently traveled outside the United States, in the past three weeks?
 - If yes, ask where: _____

Based on the responses to these questions, a **positive highly communicable disease triage screen** is considered for any patient who meets one of the following two criteria:

1- Any patient with fever and rash

2- Any patient with fever and respiratory symptoms who reports any of the following epidemiologic risk factors:

- ✓ Travel to an area that is known to be currently experiencing or at risk for a communicable disease outbreak of urgent public health concern (e.g., country currently experiencing an outbreak of avian influenza, country at higher risk for MERS-CoV, such as Saudi Arabia) *[NOTE: Since triage/screening staff may not be aware of which countries are at risk, infection control practitioners (ICPs) should be instructed to consult the DOHMH and CDC websites for recent health alerts: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/hcp/infectious-diseases.shtml> or <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>. ICPs may want to check this information on a daily or weekly basis so that they can update the ED/clinic staff.]*
- ✓ Contact with someone who is also ill and traveled to an area that is to known to be or is at risk for a communicable disease outbreak of urgent public health concern as outlined above;
- ✓ A healthcare worker (e.g., nurse, physician, ancillary services personnel, allied health services personnel, hospital volunteer, or laboratory worker) with a



recent exposure to a potential communicable disease of urgent public health concern;

- ✓ Anyone who reports being part of a cluster of two or more persons with a similar febrile, respiratory illness (e.g., household, work or social cluster).

- If highly communicable disease triage screen:
 - **Positive:** Patients with a positive highly communicable disease triage screen should be given a surgical mask and prioritized for placement in an AIIR or private room pending clinical evaluation. Both patient and triage staff should perform hand hygiene.
 - **Negative:** Note negative highly communicable disease triage screen on ED form or sheet.
- If highly communicable disease triage screen positive, notify *ED Supervisor* _____.
- Document the positive highly communicable disease triage screen on the patient's ED record.
- Bring patient to pre-identified area for separating positive highly communicable disease triage screen patients to await medical evaluation.
- Perform hand hygiene after last contact with patient.



Job Action Sheet
ED Supervisor _____

Responsible Staff: _____

- When notified by *Triage Staff* concerning patient with positive communicable disease triage screen, ensure that appropriate infection control measures have been taken.
 - **Patient placed in AIIR or private isolation room**
 - Document the time that patient was placed in an isolation room, and the type of isolation precautions implemented (e.g., airborne, contact) on the patient's ED record.
 - Signage on door of isolation room.
 - Signage showing proper donning and removing of PPE outside of room.
 - Appropriate PPE placed outside door.
 - Avoid aerosol generating procedures if possible
- Identified appropriate ED medical staff to conduct clinical evaluation to determine if patient has a communicable disease of urgent public health concern
- If ED medical staff reports that patient is suspected to have potentially communicable disease of urgent public health concern, then notification to be done by *ED Supervisor* or designees to:
 - ED Administrator On Call
 - ED Nurse Manager
 - Environmental Supervisor
 - Infection Control
 - Hospital Nursing Supervisor
 - If communicable disease of concern has potential for airborne transmission, patient should be moved to an AIIR, if not already in one, and Engineering should be contacted to verify that airflow is negative.
- **ED Physician contacts NYC DOHMH Provider Access Line**
1-866-962-3641

