

*Criteria below define the expected level of care at each tier for this specific patient population.
It is not inclusive of all patient populations or services that can be provided in a site.
ALWAYS assess patient care needs and provide support as able until transfer is arranged.*

COVID Inpatient Care

	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 1	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 2	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 3	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 4	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 5	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 6
Clinical Services						
Acute Care Inpatient Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Stable COVID inpatient admitted for other conditions 1 Convalescent Care 1 Patient unstable, including oxygen requirements, with Compassionate Care or Palliative Care directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 COVID acute care admissions. Prior to admission consult IM through SFCC and determine disposition. 2 If patient demonstrates RR greater than 20/min and SpO2 less 94% RA, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 4, 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 2 If patient requires new supplemental O2, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 4, 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 2 If patient condition deteriorates, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 4, 5 or 6. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 If patient requires 3L O2 and demonstrates RR greater than 20/min, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 3 If patient demonstrates CXR infiltrates, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 3 If patient demonstrates progressive increase of O2 over 4-6 hours, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 If patient requires 6L O2 and/or demonstrates RR greater than 30/min, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 4 If patient demonstrates HR greater than 100/min and SBP less than 100, plan for probable transfer out to Tier 5 or 6 (dependent on patient care directive). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 High flow oxygenation on acute care inpatient unit (where ICU capacity doesn't allow) 5 Chest tube maintenance of complex issues (i.e. leaky tubes) 5 Plan for transfer to Tier 6 when patient condition requires subspecialist care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Subspecialty level care 6 Dialysis
Critical Care Settings				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Step down/Observation bed/unit 4 Chest tube insertion, monitoring/care and removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 ICU level Care 5 Continuous cardiac monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Critical Care 6 Cardiac invasive hemodynamic monitoring

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ Managed by on site physician, with support of Provincial Intensivist. For stabilization and possible transfer. Patients not transferred to be jointly reassessed every 24 hours: ④ Newly established mechanical ventilation (for up to 6 hours) ④ Newly established CPAP therapy ④ Vasoactive medications ④ High flow oxygen therapy via Airvo or Opti-Flow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Chest tube insertion, maintenance of complex issues (i.e. leaky tubes) and removal ⑤ All invasive mechanical ventilation ⑤ Invasive hemodynamic pressure monitoring ⑤ Intravenous vasoactive medication ⑤ Prone positioning ⑤ Tube feeds ⑤ TPN - continuation of base solution parenteral nutrition (selected sites with limited capacity for specialty compounding and/or for initiating compounded therapy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ CRRT ⑥ Temporary transvenous pacing ⑥ ECMO (where available) ⑥ IABP (available) ⑥ LVAD support for established patients
Clinical Requirements						
Multi-Disciplinary Team	① RN, LPN and CCA nursing care teams as per usual staffing			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ Physician on call supported by Provincial Intensivist ④ PT 5 days per week on site, supported by other team members on the weekend ④ OT intermittent on site access ④ Dietitian 5 days per week on site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Physician with ICU skills for Critical Care ⑤ Critical Care RN ⑤ RT on site or on call ⑤ Social Work on site support 5 days per week 	

	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 1	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 2	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 3	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 4	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 5	COVID Inpatient Care Tier 6
Clinical Skills				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ COVID-19 intubation trained (see Ref 1) ④ ECG interpretation for telemetry and monitoring of vasoactive medications ④ Central line insertion ④ Invasive blood pressure monitoring line insertion ④ CPAP training ④ High flow oxygenation (via Airvo or Optiflow) training, including ambulance assessment/sim (see Ref 2) ④ Chest tube insertion, monitoring/care, removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Invasive blood pressure monitoring line insertion and care ⑤ BiPAP training 	
Pharmacy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ② Pharmacist on call 24/7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ③ COVID specific drugs as identified by Drug and Therapeutics Committee as priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ Pharmacist on site 5 days per week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Pharmacist on site 7 days per week ⑤ TPN - continuation of base solution parenteral nutrition (selected sites with limited capacity for specialty compounding and/or for initiating compounded therapy) 	
Lab		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ② Basic phlebotomy ② Limited testing as per site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ③ Daily lab services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ Blood gas testing available on site ④ Serum lactate testing available on site ④ Daily lab services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Full lab services on site 24/7 	
DI		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ② General X-ray 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ④ Portable X-ray ④ Ultrasound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ Interventional Radiology 	

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EMS					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Communication process to ensure site readiness to accept patient on High Flow Oxygen (Airvo or Optiflow) without delay due to O2 limitation in ambulance 	
Equipment				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Airvo or Optiflow 4 Telemetry or cardiac monitoring via Defib monitor 4 Transport ventilator 4 CPAP machine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Ventilators 5 Continuous cardiac and respiratory monitors 	
Infrastructure				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Oxygen capacity for high flow oxygen plus other demands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Intensive Care Unit 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Observation bed(s)/Step Down inpatient unit 		
Resources						
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Ref 1: COVID Intubation 4 Ref 2: High Flow Oxygen (AIRVO and Optiflow) 		

COVID Inpatient
Care Tier 1

COVID Inpatient Care
Tier 2

COVID Inpatient
Care Tier 3

COVID Inpatient
Care Tier 4

COVID Inpatient
Care Tier 5

COVID Inpatient
Care Tier 6

Legend:

- ① Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 1 services
- ② Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 2 services
- ③ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 3 services
- ④ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 4 services
- ⑤ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 5 services
- ⑥ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 6 services

- ① Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 1 *or higher* services
- ② Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 2 *or higher* services
- ③ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 3 *or higher* services
- ④ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 4 *or higher* services
- ⑤ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 5 *or higher* services
- ⑥ Services or requirements expected for teams/facilities providing Tier 5 *or higher* services



CLICK HERE to go to the **Tiers of Service webpage** with maps, definition of other service lines & supporting information on how to use the Tiers.



CLICK HERE for more **COVID Inpatient Care info**, including tier-by-tier checklists & other information related to this service line.

