



HIGHLAND PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Guidelines for School Nurse – COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Assessment

Upon arrival to the clinic, the nurse will evaluate the patient's signs/symptoms and by asking the following questions:

- Assess for a fever. Take an oral and temporal temperature.
- Assess for cough, sore throat and/or shortness of breath.
- If any these symptoms are present, ask the following questions –
 1. Have you traveled to Level 3 or Level 2 geographical area in the past 14 days?
 2. Have you been in Have you had close contact* with a person that is under investigation for the 2019-nCov while that person was ill?
 3. Have you had close contact with a person with a laboratory confirmed case of 2019-nCov while they were ill?

**Close contact is defined as within 6 feet of the person or within a room or care area for a prolonged period of time while not wearing PPE (gowns, gloves, respirator mask, and eye protection). Brief interactions, such as walking by a person, are considered low risk and doesn't constitute close contact.*

Suspect COVID-19 if patient has a fever or symptoms of lower respiratory illness AND answered yes to any of the above questions.

The nurse will need to:

- Isolate patient in a private room with a private restroom, if possible.
- Implement standard droplet precautions by placing PPE on the patient and nurse (non-permeable gown, gloves, face mask, eye protection).
- Everyone in the clinic will need to leave immediately except for the suspected patient and the nurse. Patient will be placed in an enclosed infection control room, if available in the clinic.
- The 2nd nurse or clinic assistant will take needed medical supplies to an already established satellite clinic location. Students will be able to access the satellite clinic for administration of daily meds or emergency care only.
- The remaining nurse will complete the CDC's PUI form (located on Nurse Files) to pass along to DCHHS and await for guidance on how to proceed.

Contact:

- **Principal/A.P.** – will assist in re-routing other students from clinic to satellite clinic and contact designated trained assistant to assume charge of the temporary clinic.
- **Lead Nurse** (Angie Glass ext-3720) – will assist in contacting Dallas County and District Administrators.
- **Parent/Guardian** – if patient is a student (Parent would have been contacted for exposure risk questions above).

Clinic and other affected areas will be sanitized per DCHHS guidelines. Exposure risk to other students and staff will occur per DCHHS guidelines and will come from HPISD Communications Director. *NOTE: A person meeting the criteria may NOT have COVID-19, but s/he should be evaluated in consultation with the Dallas County Health Department as a PUI (Patient Under Investigation).