

Scheduled Home Visits

Public Health Nurse (PHN) will call patients within 24 hours of scheduled home visit (preferably the morning of the visit) and screen (asking about patient and anyone else in the home) using Cerner Telephone Screening Ad Hoc Form and document patient's or caregiver's response. For information regarding determination of essential vs. nonessential home visits, see attached document titled "Guidance for essential and non-essential home visits."

For negative phone screenings:

Visit will continue as planned. PHN Nurse will screen again once they have arrived at the home prior to entering and have appropriate PPE available in their supplies.

- If ***negative home screening***, proceed with visit using standard precautions.
- If ***positive home screening***, cancel if non-essential visit, perform hand hygiene as recommended by the CDC using alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60 to 95% alcohol.
 - All attempts should be made to conduct visits by phone or alternate methods as they become available
 - When documenting phone or alternate visit Cerner Chart Review Encounter Type.
 - Rescheduling may occur after patient and residents in the home remain asymptomatic for 14 days
- If ***positive home screening and an essential visit***, follow CDC Guidelines for interviewing and assessing persons with symptoms (PUIs for COVID-19) (see attached document: Interviewing and assessing persons with symptoms (PUIs for COVID-19))



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For positive phone screenings:

- Any non-essential visits will be cancelled
 - All attempts should be made to conduct visits by phone or alternate methods as they become available
 - When documenting phone or alternate visit Cerner Chart Review Encounter Type.
- Rescheduling may occur after patient and residents in the home remain asymptomatic for 14 days

If *positive phone screening and an essential visit*, follow CDC Guidelines for interviewing and assessing persons with symptoms (PUIs for COVID-19) (see attached document: Interviewing and assessing persons with symptoms (PUIs for COVID-19))

***** For Patients That Screen Positive *****

Strongly recommend that the patient or the patient's caregiver contact their primary care provider for further advice or recommendations. If symptoms worsen or the patient becomes significantly short of breath, they should seek medical care. Encourage the patient or the patient's caregiver to notify the medical facility **PRIOR TO ARRIVAL**.

References

CDC. (2020). Interim guidance for public health personnel evaluating persons under investigation (PUIs) and asymptomatic close contacts of confirmed cases at their home or non-home residential settings. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/guidance-evaluating-pui.html>

