ALGORITHM 2: Management of patient at risk of possible COVID-19 infection

Primary Care and Laboratory Testing and Admission Criteria

PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Asymptomatic person

Travel history
Or
Contact with confirmed case
Within last 14 days

Criteria for referral to Public Health Practice
Respiratory infection (without other clear cause) and at least one:
- Underlying diseases such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease, severe immunosuppression (malignancy under chemotherapy), rheumatological/neurological/other immunosuppressive conditions taking medication such as corticosteroids and immunomodulators, immunodeficiencies or diabetes (type 1)
- Age > 60 years
- Fever > 38.5°C
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Symptoms that persist for more than 2 days
- Travel history or contact with confirmed COVID-19 case within 14 days of onset of symptoms

Recommendations
- Self-isolation at home for 14 days
- Telephone contact with GP every 24-48 hours
- In case any symptoms develop, follow the algorithm (right)

Laboratory testing for COVID-19

With severity criteria for hospital referral
- Referral to state hospital after co-ordination with A&E dept

Without severity criteria for hospital referral
- Self-isolation at home until laboratory test results are available (Epidemiology Team)
- If result is negative, self-isolate until symptoms subside
- Instructions for symptom monitoring and telephone contact with GP every 24-48 hours

Severity Criteria:
Acute respiratory infection and at least one of the following conditions:
- Underlying diseases such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease, severe immunosuppression (malignancy under chemotherapy), rheumatological/neurological/other immunosuppressive conditions taking medication such as corticosteroids and immunomodulators, immunodeficiencies or diabetes (type 1)
- Newly transpired confusion or communication level disorder
- Need for exogenous oxygen supply (SpO2<93%)
- Severe tachypnoea (breaths >30/min)
- Severe respiratory distress / ARDS
- Sepsis (organic damage)/ Septic shock