



Management of a suspected case of COVID-19

Does the patient have **EITHER**:

- severe acute respiratory infection requiring admission to hospital with clinical or radiological evidence of pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome **OR**
- acute respiratory infection of any degree of severity, including at least one of shortness of breath (difficult breathing in children) or cough (with or without fever) **OR**
- fever with no other symptoms

Primary care

- isolate the patient (and their belongings or waste) in a side room with the door closed
- do not physically examine the patient
- if consultation/examination had already started, leave the room and wash your hands
- ask the patient to call NHS 111 from their room, on their mobile (use GP surgery landline if mobile unavailable)

Secondary care

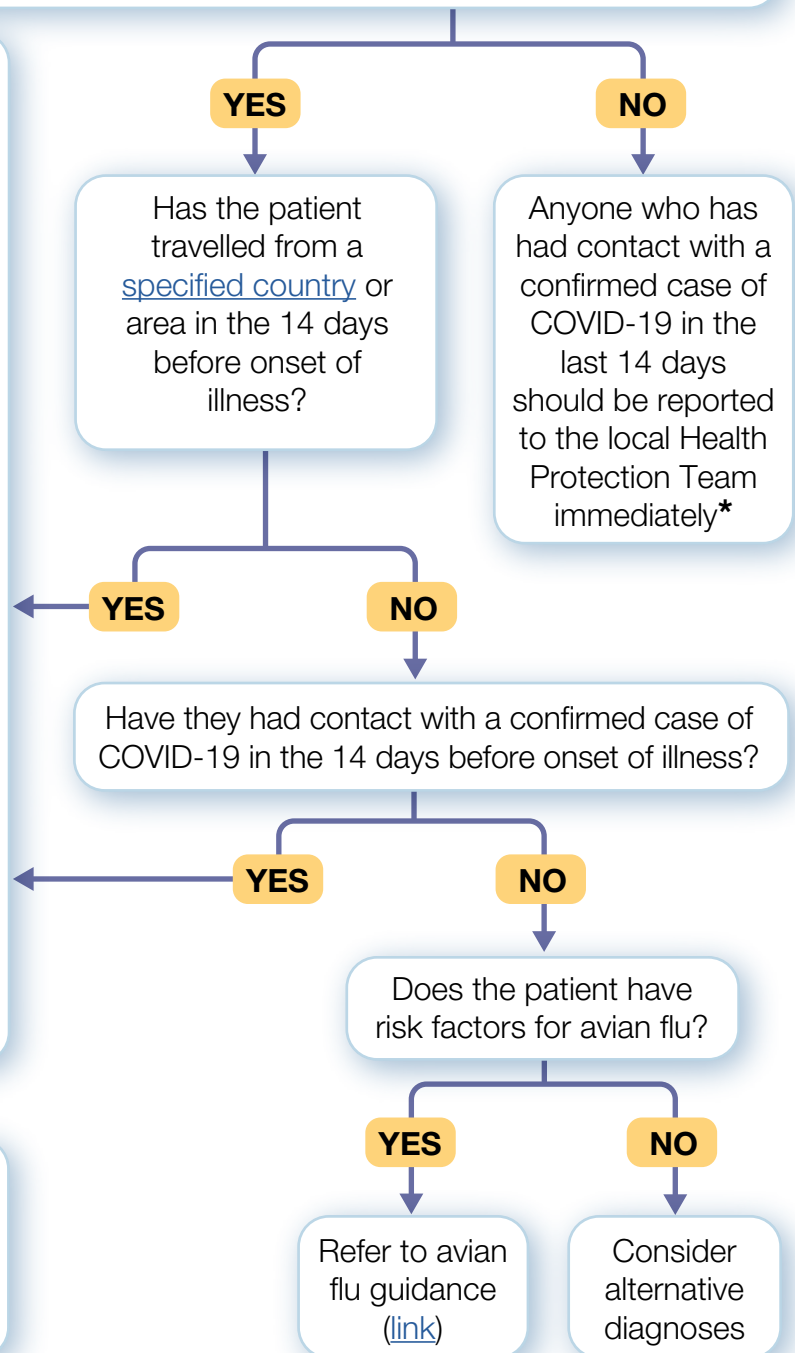
- place the patient in respiratory isolation, and PPE is worn by any person entering the room
- seek specialist advice from a local microbiologist, virologist, or infectious diseases physician

Patient phone call

- NHS 111 to advise the patient to stay at home whilst appropriate transport can be arranged

Notify the local PHE Health Protection Team **only if positive***

Consider self isolation at home for patients who are clinically stable if safe transport home can be arranged



Foot note - For further guidance:

- * [Link to local Health Protection Team lookup](#)
- [Link to background information](#)
- [Link to initial investigation of possible cases guidance](#)

- [Link to infection prevention and control guidance](#)
- [Link to primary care management guidance](#)
- [Link to clinical diagnostic laboratories guidance](#)