

COVID-19 Notice

Friday 27 March 2020



DESTINATION PROTOCOL FOR PRESUMED COVID-19 PATIENTS

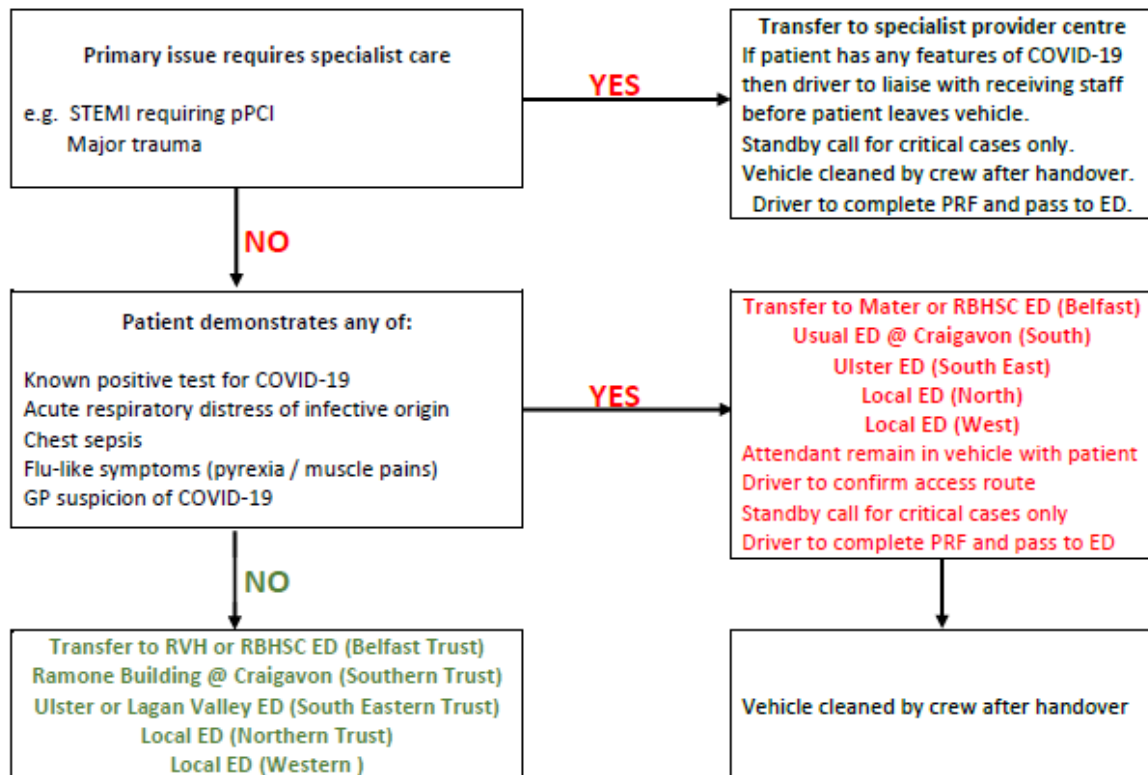
V2.1 ISSUE DATE 27.3.2020

NIAS has agreed a protocol with local hospital trusts who are implementing plans whereby patients who meet the diagnostic criteria listed and who require hospital assessment or admission should be brought directly to specified sites unless their primary complaint requires specialist care at another unit.

On arrival at the receiving department, the vehicle driver should check access arrangements with ED staff before the patient is offloaded from the ambulance. Hospital staff should work to minimise turnaround time.

We have been advised that the Downe ED will temporarily close to ALL patients at 2000hrs on Friday 27th March, and that the Daisy Hill ED will temporarily close to ALL patients at 1400hrs on Saturday 28th March. A new temporary ED is planned to open in the Ramone building* on the Craigavon site for non-COVID patients at 0800hrs on Sunday 29th March. These changes will remain in place until further notice.

Aside from patients requiring specialist care, NIAS crews should at all times take patients to the nearest emergency department as defined below.



A STANDBY CALL IS NOT REQUIRED UNLESS PATIENT IS CRITICALLY UNWELL

*Ramone building is located directly between main hospital building and South Divisional HQ, and vehicle access is by the normal ED loop road.