ED Screening Algorithm for Highly Communicable Viral Illnesses

**First Contact/Registration**
- Travel question positive?
- Symptom question(s) positive?
  - **YES**
    - Give patient a simple mask and ask to perform hand hygiene. Inform Triage Nurse immediately.
    - **STOP** screening process. Proceed with usual patient process.
  - **NO**
    - **Triage Nurse**
      - **YES**
        - Triage Nurse assessment including travel/exposure questions AND symptom questions with a POSITIVE interpretation.
        - Call to Public Health Day: 315-229-3449 After 5pm/wk end: 315-454-2363
      - **NO**
        - Alert Charge Nurse for appropriate room assignment.
  - **NO**
    - **Triage Nurse**
      - Escort patient to negative pressure or private room with door. Door should be closed.
      - **Stop screening proceed with usual assessment including transmission based precautions**

**Triage Nurse**
- **YES**
  - **Is VHF suspected AND is the patient unstable or is there a high risk of bodily fluid exposure?**
    - **NO**
      - Triage Nurse to don N95 plus gloves. If physical contact needed don special basic PPE.
    - **YES**
      - Triage Nurse to don VHF PPE before entering room.
      - With an ED Nurse or Provider present in room, patient is to CALL PUBLIC HEALTH to determine if patient classifies as a PUI.
  - **NO**
    - Does patient meet criteria for PUI for special pathogen?
      - **NO**
        - Special pathogen?
          - **NO**
            - Stop screening proceed with usual assessment including transmission based precautions.
          - **YES**
            - Go to VHF algorithm for diagnostics and management.
      - **YES**
        - Go to Special Respiratory Pathogen algorithm for diagnostics and management.

VHF: Viral Hemorrhagic Fever  PUI: Person Under Investigation

Last modified: 3/7/20