

Discharge Transport - COVID-19 Positive or Suspect (Acute Care)

Transportation of COVID-19 positive or suspect patients being discharged from a clinical setting must consider the following:

1. Is the patient able to perform hand hygiene prior to entering the vehicle and minimize contact with internal surfaces during transport?
2. Is the patient able to wear a procedure mask during the full duration of the trip?
3. Is the person involved in transport living in the same residence or providing care to the patient in their home post discharge?
4. Will there be multiple people in the vehicle during transport (driver and patient)?
**If yes- please explore if possible to minimize the number of people present in the vehicle.

If the answer to questions 1-3 is “no”, the patient is to be transported home using a transportation service able to provide appropriate physical separation and utilizes post transport cleaning protocols. Sites discharging patients who do require this service are to call **Interfacility Transport (IFT) at (204) 986-8410** to arrange transportation upon discharge.

Staff calling IFT, must identify that the patient is COVID-19 positive or suspect.

The patient is to wear a procedure mask and perform hand hygiene before leaving the hospital.

If the answer to questions 1-3 is “yes”, staff will provide the items and instructions below (page 2) for use upon entry to/ exit from the vehicle:

Use of Personal Vehicles for transport of COVID suspect or COVID positive patients:

Supplies needed:

- Hand sanitizer (used on departure from the site)
- Medical/procedure face mask (1 each - all vehicle occupants to be masked)
- Trash bag
- A sheet or plastic bag over to place over the seat to be used by the patient
- Cleaning sanitization wipes (cleaning wipes) to wipe down car surface area after patient has entered the home (provide 3 in a plastic bag)

Instructions for Driver and Patient

Prior to Entering Vehicle:

- Hand hygiene practices (wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer)
- Driver & client put on mask prior to entering vehicle (if not wearing prior)
- Place plastic bag or sheet on seat to be used by the patient
- Consider having patient sit on rear passenger seat to create greatest distance from driver
- Driver to open vehicle door for the patient

While in transit:

- Patient encouraged to not to touch vehicle interior
- Consider opening windows
- Masks to remain in place for duration of trip

After Exiting Vehicle:

- Patient to remove procedure/medical mask once in their home
- Driver to remove and discard **all PPE** supplies used in the garbage bag, tie knot in garbage bag after use, and discard.
- Hand hygiene practices
- Clean vehicle interior with cleaning wipes and discard in garbage.