

Cohorting Recommendations for Respiratory Viral Illness (RVI) in Non-Outbreak Settings

The table below provides direction about which patients/residents/clients (PRCs) can be cohorted. “YES” means PRCs can share a multi-bed room. “AVOID IF POSSIBLE” means PRCs may be cohorted, but should be avoided whenever possible. “NO” means PRCs cannot share a multi-bed room.

	COVID-19 Positive	COVID-19 Suspect ⁺	FLU Positive	RSV Positive	Other RVI	NO RVI
COVID-19 Positive	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
COVID-19 Suspect ⁺	NO	YES	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE
FLU Positive	NO	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	YES	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	NO
RSV Positive	NO	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	YES	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	NO
Other RVI	NO	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	AVOID IF POSSIBLE	YES (PREFERABLY WITH SAME PATHOGEN)	NO

⁺Consider AGMP status. If AGMP performed, only cohort with COVID recovered as per [Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures \(sharedhealthmb.ca\)](https://www.sharedhealthmb.ca/AGMP).

*Important considerations where cohorting is **not** recommended:*

- *Treat each bedspace like a private room. The two PRCs cannot share washroom; one must use a commode or alternate method (e.g., Zorbi®). Maintain 2 meters between PRCs and keep curtains drawn*
- *Change PPE, perform hand hygiene, and clean and disinfect equipment between PRC and environment*
- *Immunocompromised PRCs shall not share a room with patients on Additional Precautions*
- *PRCs with concern for infection with airborne pathogens (e.g. tuberculosis, measles, chickenpox) shall not be cohorted*
- *Consider PRCs vaccination status when making bed placement decision*
- *PRCs exposed to (roommates of) FLU, RSV or Other RVI patients during their infectious period do not require Additional Precautions unless they have symptoms*
- *Patients exposed to COVID-19 during their infectious period follow [covid-19-ipc-contact-management.pdf \(sharedhealthmb.ca\)](https://www.sharedhealthmb.ca/covid-19-ipc-contact-management.pdf). Residents exposed to COVID-19 during their infectious period follow [covid-19-ipc-contact-management-ltc.pdf \(sharedhealthmb.ca\)](https://www.sharedhealthmb.ca/covid-19-ipc-contact-management-ltc.pdf)*
- *Notify IP&C after cohorting based on similar symptoms and unknown pathogen. When possible and where PRCs have respiratory symptoms and unknown pathogens, consult with IP&C is recommended before cohorting*