

Braden
Percival

Suspected Corona Virus Patient Case Study

TRIAGE

Date: Today Time: Now

Patient Name: Ms. Grace Yi		Age: 35	Gender: F	Weight: 60kg	
Presenting complaint: Shortness of breath, cough, fever					
Temp: 39.2	HR: 140	BP: 100/60	RR: 22	O ₂ Sat: 90%	FiO ₂ : RA
Cap glucose: 130		GCS: 15			
Triage note: 35-year-old woman became febrile last night with coryza and woke up acutely short of breath with productive cough, rhinorrhea, and a subjective fever.					
Allergies: None					
Past Medical History: None		Current Medications: Ibuprofen 600mg q 6 hours PRN Acetaminophen 500 mg q 4 hours PRN			

Task Alert:

Review a COVID-19 screening tool: <https://www.chop.edu/clinical-pathway/2019-novel-coronavirus-emergency-clinical-pathway>

What questions would be important to ask this patient?

Have you come into contact with anyone who has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

Are you experiencing any signs of a respiratory illness such as a cough, congestion, or excess mucous production? (Last 14 days).

How long have you been experiencing a fever of more than 100° F?

Have you recently traveled out of the country, or been in large crowds within the last 14 days?

Extra Patient Information

A. Further History

She has traveled from China a week ago because she was visiting family.

She also has seasonal allergies.

B. Physical Exam

List any pertinent positive and negative findings

Cardio: Tachycardia

Neuro: WNL

Resp: Crepitus and expiratory wheezes bilaterally, productive cough

Head & Neck: Coryza

Abdo: WNL

MSK/skin: Flushed

Other: She feels very weak and tired

She screens positive for potential coronavirus exposure due to fever, respiratory symptoms and a high-risk travel history.

What signs and symptoms are most concerning?

Tachycardia, Crepitus and expiratory wheezes bilaterally w/ productive cough, Coryza, flushed skin, and feeling weak.

Explain the significance of these signs and symptoms.

The heart is working harder due to her infection, especially for her Coryza. Her remaining symptoms correlate to the S/S of the COVID-19 virus.

What type of isolation precautions should this patient have?

Contact, droplet, and Standard Precautions.

Emergency Room: Part 2 Time: 2 hours later

You notice the following rhythm:



What rhythm is this patient experiencing?

Sinus Tachycardia

Before you go into assess the patient describe what PPE you will use:

Full PPE, gown, gloves, shield, mask, (N95)

Now you are in the patient's room and notice the following changes:

Patient is experiencing worsening shortness of breath with RR: 28 and O₂SAT: 84%. You work with the healthcare team to complete the following orders:

Apply O₂ by NRB mask
Portable chest Xray, BMP, CBC, ECG

Task Alert:

1) Review the chest x-ray results here: <https://emsimcases.com/2020/02/18/suspected-covid-19/>

Results indicate bilateral pneumonia.

2) Create a set of lab values based on what you might expect to see:

CBC: WBCs, RBCs, H/H, etc.

BMP: Na, K+, Ca+, etc.

Other Labs?

Sputum test? call RT, ABG

3) How would you know if the non-rebreather mask is working?

Seeing an increase in SaO₂ levels after using NRB Mask

WBC: ↑ Na: 135 mEq ↓
RBC: ↑ K: 3.5 ↓
H/H: ↓ (clotting) Ca: 2.2 ↓

Emergency Room: Part 3 Time: 15 minutes later

O₂Sat increases to 90% with supplemental O₂
Swabs for flu and coronavirus are sent

The patient will transfer to ICU. Write Report in SBAR frame you would give to the ICU RN.

S (Situation): Grace Yi, 35 Female, Presenting dyspnea, cough, and a fever on admission

B (Background): Grace became febrile last night with Coryza among her Presenting symptoms.

A (Assessment): Pt has been noted to be experiencing sinus tach, crepitus + wheezes bilaterally, weak and tired, with worsening vitals relating to respiratory system.

R (Recommendations):

1st Set vitals	Changes in vitals	Notes/orders
Temp: 39.2 °C	↓	Apply O ₂ NRB Mask
HR: 140	→	Chest X-ray
BP: 100/60	→	BMP, LBC, ECG
RR: 22	RR: 28	After apply NRB SaO ₂
O ₂ : 90% RA	O ₂ : 84%	Increase and went back to 90%.
glucose: 130		Pt needs closer supervision Sending to ICU.

ICU Room: Part 4 Time: 1 hour later

You complete an assessment

Vitals: T: 38.6 BP: 88/50 Pulse: 130 RR: 30 O ₂ SAT: 86% NRB	Focused Assessment: Patient becoming more hypoxic, agitated. Pale, cool clammy skin	What actions should you take next? Make a check list below <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give anti-inflammatory meds for fever/inflammation• Administer supplemental oxygen• Provide calm and quiet environment• Monitor Vitals• Assess O₂ levels
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Task Alert:

Complete the QSOFA Score found here <https://www.mdcalc.com/qsofa-quick-sofa-score-sepsis>

What are your findings?

High Risk, Assess for organ dysfunction, blood testing including serum lactate.

You call a code sepsis. What actions do you expect next?

Initiate rapid response broad-spectrum antibiotics, blood cultures, and fluid resuscitation.

While the team is providing care for the patient, the patient's sister comes into the room upset and wanting to know what happened. Describe how you would handle the situation.

Approach the daughter with empathy and clarity.
Therapeutic communication is key, for example;

"I'm here for your needs and your Mother's, your Mom's condition is critical and the medical care team are working to help her. We are doing everything we can, and will keep you updated on your Mother's Status."

ICU Room: Part 5 Time: 15 minutes later

You must complete the following actions. What order will you complete these interventions. Place them in order of priority highest to lowest.

Interventions:	Prioritized Interventions
• Start Levophed drip	1
• Administer a Normal saline fluid bolus	2
• Assist with intubation	3
• Call the laboratory to draw blood cultures	4

Task Alert:

Calculate the rate (ml/hr) for the Levophed drip. The order is to give 4mcg/min. The pharmacist prepares a bag of Levophed with 4 mg/250 ml.

$$\frac{4\text{mcg}}{1\text{min}} \cdot \frac{60\text{min}}{1\text{hr}} \cdot \frac{1\text{mg}}{1000\text{mcg}} \cdot \frac{250\text{ml}}{4\text{mg}} = \frac{60,000}{4,000} = 15\text{ml/hr}$$

ICU Room: Part 6 Time: 2 hours later

You complete an assessment

Vitals: T: 37.4 BP: 110/70 Pulse: 90 RR: 14 O ₂ SAT: 92% (Vented 100% FiO ₂)	Focused Assessment: Patient is sedated, course lung sound present throughout, secretions thick with yellowish hue	<u>ABG's noted below.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• pH- 7.34 - acidic• CO₂- 35 - normal• HCO₃- 18 acidic• pO₂- 200
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What's the significance of the assessment?

Metabolic Acidosis UNcompensated

Any recommendations for treatments not currently being given?

- Increase fluid intake to thin secretions and nourish body
- HOB 30°

Follow up considerations:

- 1) Identify potential exposed persons, nature of exposure and discuss necessary actions
- 2) What are next steps for individuals who may have been inadvertently exposed?
- 3) Discuss potential risk factors involved with the care of this patient
- 4) Discuss legal ethical considerations that you might consider in caring for this patient

1.) The family she visited in China would all be exposed and should be notified about a recent exposure to get tested.

The care team would also be alerted of exposure. Those exposed should get tested and stay away from others if symptoms are present.

2.) Isolate immediately, get tested, stay away from others until negative result.

3.) The patient is young, but has seasonal allergies that may worsen with her dx of COVID-19. The patient also has a diagnosis of coryza, and may be at risk for respiratory diseases/failure.

4.) - Use of translator (if needed)

- Vaccination coverage
- Insurance coverage
- Transportation
- ability to take time off work
- access to outpatient therapy

ICU Room: Part 7 Time: 5 days later

The patient is doing much better, so you the nurse are preparing for the patient for discharge.

Review the COVID-19 Fact Sheet for Nurses pdf document and prepare to educate the patient using the prompts below.

Patient education

1) Choose 3 points under the patient teaching sections general and/or discharge planning

- Isolation
- Hand washing and Protection from bacteria,
- Well-fitting mask

2) What will you share with the patient regarding these 3 points?

- Isolation - Stay in specific room, use separate bathroom if possible, and have food brought to you
- Mask - protect yourself and others (NAS education)
- Handwashing - Use soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds

3) Consider any visuals or other resources you might use to demonstrate and teach regarding these 3 points.

A nurse can provide COVID-19 Handouts and education and refer to CDC guidelines for more resources

4) What questions do you anticipate the patient might have once you provide teaching?

How long to isolate, when and if they can leave their isolation room.

Where and how to get tested, and what to do if symptoms persist.

5) How will you answer these questions?

Use therapeutic communication, open-ended questions/answers, and refer to educational material on COVID-19.