This **SAMPLE** Hospital in the Home (HITH) COVID-19 clinical pathway has been developed for public Queensland HITH services to provide a **guide for local adaptation and modification** in relation to the evolving COVID-19 response.

Clinical Excellence Queensland acknowledges that this **SAMPLE** clinical pathway has been informed by resources developed by Mater Health and the following Hospital and Health Services (HHSs): Metro North, Metro South and Sunshine Coast.

### PATIENT SOURCES

HITH patients (COVID negative and positive) may be identified from the following sources:

- **Community:** Residential Aged Care Facility (RACF); General Practitioners (GPs); Existing HITH patients; Patients in the community who have returned a COVID POSITIVE swab from a screening clinic
- **Hospital:** Emergency Department; Fever Clinic; Known inpatient with COVID POSITIVE swab

### If patient COVID -ve

Adhere to standard local HITH referral process and admission criteria, unless COVID-19 demands adversely impact current local processes and procedures and require modification

### If patient COVID +ve

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

**Physical - patients who:**
- are deemed by treating team/Infectious Diseases to have a suitable home environment to support home isolation limiting risk of exposure to other home occupants

**Clinical - patients who:**
- have been tested for COVID-19 virus and returned a positive result, including patients who have been managed as an inpatient who are deemed safe for discharge to HITH (including symptomatic and still infectious), AND
- have been assessed and approved by Infectious Diseases to be able to be medically stable for home management (patient able to safely self-isolate at home), AND
- have been assessed by HITH team and deemed suitable for HITH, AND
- Notify Public Health Unit (PHU) of admission to HITH and self-isolation at home
  - Note: Public Health notify Environmental Health to issue email order for 14 days self-isolation subject to review
  - Note: Environmental Health require the following information for the order: name, date of birth, valid email address, date of onset symptoms

**EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

- are non-compliant with any inclusion criteria, AND
- are unable to isolate at home - cohabitants with increased risk of COVID complications (e.g. immunosuppression, >60 years old) or appropriate residence for home based care

**MEDICAL GOVERNANCE**

- All patients will be admitted under the relevant Infectious Diseases consultant (or equivalent).
- Patients will be admitted to the HOME ward of the relevant hospital as a HITH patient

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Deterioration in COVID POSITIVE patients:
Adhere to local protocol for deteriorating patients

Attachments:
- **Phone/Face to Face Assessment COVID-19** (developed by Metro North and Metro South HHSs respectively)
- **COVID-19 – Information for Cases Isolating at Home** factsheet (developed by Metro South HHS)
- **Oropharyngeal/Nasopharyngeal Swabs for COVID-19** (developed by Sunshine Coast HHS)
- **Correct Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** - (developed by Sunshine Coast HHS)
- **Home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection presenting with mild symptoms, and management of their contacts – Interim guidance 4 February 2020** (World Health Organisation)