

Acute Care Alert Checklist:

Viral Respiratory Illness (VRI)/Gastrointestinal Illness (GI)

Unit: **Organism:** **Date:**
Unit funded beds: **Current unit census:**
Number of patients currently symptomatic:
Number of new symptomatic patients today:
Description of common symptoms (listed below):
Staff illness reports:
Last symptom onset date:

1. CASE IDENTIFICATION & SURVEILLANCE

- ☐ Discuss during safety huddles to review Alert measures
- ☐ Review all patients for new VRI or GI symptoms each shift
- ☐ Ensure symptomatic patients are placed on appropriate Additional Precautions
- ☐ Notify IPAC of any new suspected cases
- ☐ Track all symptomatic patients and test results utilizing this [line List](#)

2. Illness Spread Prevention

- ☐ Reinforce hand hygiene compliance
- ☐ Masking for all staff and visitors in **all areas** upon entering the unit if **VRI**
- ☐ Reinforce PPE requirements with staff.
- ☐ Ensure precaution signage is posted correctly
- ☐ Verify PPE supplies are adequate
- ☐ Remove clutter from workstations and patient care areas
- ☐ Confirm enhanced cleaning of high-touch surfaces is occurring
- ☐ When connecting with EVS Supervisor determine if workload is required

3. STAFF & VISITOR MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Post [alert signage](#) at the entrances to the unit
- ☐ Review staff illness reports
- ☐ Encourage staff to self-monitor for illness and refrain from work if ill
- ☐ Restrict visitors if advised by IPAC

4. COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Notify site leadership
- ☐ Update physicians and interdisciplinary team
- ☐ Review Alert Status at every safety huddle/shift report

Symptom Description Legend: New or Worsening Cough = **C**, Fever = **F**, Shortness of Breath = **SOB**,
Runny Nose = **R**, Sore Throat = **S**, Malaise = **M**, Myalgia = **My**, Headache = **H**, Nausea = **N**, Vomiting = **V**,
Diarrhea = **D**, Bloody Diarrhea = **BD**, Abdominal Pain = **AP**