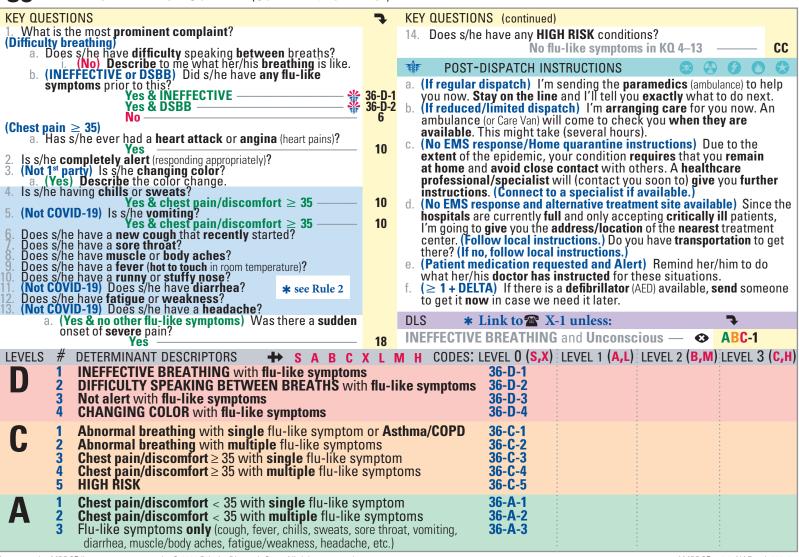
Protocol 36

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Surveillance & Triage Level Suffixes Locally enacted Triage Level designations may affect your agency's response assignment. With the exception of Level 0, the other levels allow for **locally** designated, potentially **different levels** of patient triage and reduced response:

S = **Level 0** (COVID-19 surveillance only) – **no** change in response

A = Level 1 (COVID-19 low triage) consider referral of ALPHA cases only

B = **Level 2** (COVID-19 moderate triage) - **consider** reduced response for CHARLIE cases **C** = **Level 3** (COVID-19 high triage) – **consider** referral of some CHARLIE cases and

reduced response for DELTA cases X = Level 0 (other disease surveillance only) – no change in response

L = Level 1 (other disease low triage) consider referral of ALPHA cases only M = Level 2 (other disease moderate triage) - consider

reduced response for CHARLIE cases **H** = **Level 3** (other disease high triage) – **consider** referral of some CHARLIE cases and reduced response for DELTA cases

INEFFECTIVE BREATHING

See Protocol 9 for definitions.

DIFFICULTY SPEAKING BETWEEN BREATHS

See **Protocol 6** for definitions.

CHANGING COLOR

See Protocol 6 for definitions.

HIGH RISK Conditions

Local Medical Control must define and authorize (X) other conditions that qualify a patient as **HIGH RISK**:

- ≤ 5 years old (not COVID-19)
- \geq 65 years old
- Blood disorders Diabetes
- Kidney and liver diseases/disorders
- Neurological diseases
- Pregnancy (up to 2 weeks after delivery) Sickle cell disease (sickle cell anemia)
- Weakened immune system (e.g., HIV/AIDS, cancer, on chronic steroids, etc.)

Other high-risk conditions of asthma, COPD, heart disease, and angina are covered in other

Date approved

CHARLIE-level Determinant Codes.

Approval signature of local Medical Control

Rules

1. Once surveillance or triage is locally approved, use Protocol 36 for the medical (non-trauma) Chief Complaints of Breathing Problems (Protocol 6), Chest Pain/Chest Discomfort (Protocol 10), Headache (Protocol 18 not COVID-19), and Sick Person (Protocol 26).

Protocol 36 provides shunts to these protocols when the outbreak disease is not likely in the patient. 2. Once two flu-like symptoms in Key

mentioned in Case Entry, these Key Questions do not have to be asked again. More than one flu-like symptom creates a higher likelihood that the Chief Complaint is actually the current outbreak illness. If initial information identifies the Chief Complaint as Breathing Problems (6), Chest Pain/ Chest Discomfort (10), Headache (18 – not COVID-19), or **Sick Person** (26), and other flu-like symptoms are **not identified**, return to the **original Chief**

Questions 4-13 have been identified, skip the

rest of the questions to Key Question 14 and

then choose the appropriate Determinant

Code. If positive flu-like symptoms were

Complaint and complete the call. 4. If the patient had a fever but took aspirin, acetaminophen (Tylenol), or ibuprofen (Motrin),

and the fever is now gone, answer the fever Key Question as "yes". 5. If the complaint is Chest Pain/Chest

Discomfort (\geq 35) and sweats, vomiting, or a history of heart attack or angina are later identified, go to Protocol 10 and complete the call. While sweats and vomiting are symptoms of flu and other flu-like illnesses, they may also be **present in heart attacks**.

Axioms

1. It is predicted that a pandemic, epidemic, or outbreak will cause an increase in the

number of severe breathing problems reported (more 6-D-1 cases) unless Protocol 36 triage is implemented. **Pregnant women** (including those up to 2 weeks

after delivery) are generally more susceptible to infection from flu, flu-like illnesses, viral respiratory infections, and hemorrhagic fever. Also, once infected, they are typically more at risk for complications, hospitalizations, and death.

3. The **HIGH RISK** group of **neurological diseases** includes: cerebral palsy, stroke history (CVA/TIA), multiple sclerosis (MS), muscular dystrophy (MD), amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease), motor neuron disease (MND), poliomyelitis, and myasthenia gravis. If a mentioned disease is questionable, consider it as positive.

Pandemic

An epidemic that becomes widespread, affecting an entire region, continent, or the world.

Epidemic

A **sudden** outbreak of a disease or an unusually large number of disease cases in a single community or relatively small area. Disease may spread from person to person and/ or through the exposure of many persons to a single source, such as a water supply.

Outbreak

A **sudden increase** in the number of disease cases, or occurrence of a larger than expected **number** of cases, within a **short** period of time.

Flu-like Symptoms (may be updated as more is known about specific symptoms at the time of an outbreak)

Nasal congestion/

New or persistent

respiratory problems

Stuffy noše

Runny nosé

Sore throat

Vomiting*

- Chest pain/discomfort Chills or sweats
- Cough (recent onset) Diarrhea*
- Difficulty breathing Fatigue/Weakness
- Fever (> 100° F/38° C) Headache*
- Muscle or body aches

*Symptom excluded from COVID-19 definition