



REMINDER:

Please follow the COVID-19 Triage and Assessment Guidance previously provided by the Tennessee Department of Health. This document does not provide comprehensive medical information and should be used for record keeping purposes only. Syndromic surveillance reporting is not equivalent to case reporting. Please continue to follow all TDH guidance and procedures for COVID-19 case reporting.

This guidance document provides options for indicating exposure to or clinical suspicion of COVID-19 in chief complaint fields or triage notes reported through syndromic surveillance interfaces in hospital emergency departments. Please consider these options when triaging patients into your EMR system.

1. For symptomatic patients seeking care for a suspected COVID-19 infection

- Enter your typical chief complaint/ triage information according to your facility's workflow.
- Add in the text "**COVID-19 Suspect**" when possible.
- If your EMR workflow is unable to support adding this text to the chief complaint or triage information, please contact CEDS.Informatics@tn.gov.

2. For asymptomatic patients seeking care because they believe they were exposed to a person with COVID-19

- Enter your typical chief complaint/ triage information according to your facility's workflow.
- Add in the text "**COVID-19 Exposure**" when possible.
- If your EMR workflow is unable to support adding this text to the chief complaint or triage information, please contact CEDS.Informatics@tn.gov.

ALERT:

Recording this information in your EMR does not equate to reporting this information to TDH as required by state statutes. You must continue to follow all case and laboratory reporting guidelines as outlined at <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html>.