



**Rehab Services Acute Care Strategy
31 March 2020**

Acute Care Therapy

Our goal is to put patients first while ensuring the safety of our staff, allowing for patient flow, and utilizing PPE responsibly. Here is the information in regards to **acute care therapy** providing services to COVID+/PUIs.

All therapists will wear a gown, gloves, N95 mask, surgical mask over the N95, and a face shield. The PPE is to be provided by each nursing unit.

Acute Therapy Triage Process for COVID/PUI

- Must be afebrile for 48 hours
- Patient must be awake and alert
- Participatory and engaging
- Pending discharge – placement or home recommendations
- Splinting
- Burn patients
- Ortho patients
- New CVAs
- New TBI
- New SCI
- New amputations
- Swallowing
- Speaking valve vs. Trach weaning

COVID + and PUI patients will be seen in the afternoon by therapy.

Therapy will always check with RN prior to seeing patient.

- If the nurse states the patient is independent in the room without assistance, write a professional consult stating this and sign off. This is in effort to conserve PPE.
- Exceptions may be for a specific order or therapy need – splints, vestibular exercises, transfer training, HEP, etc.
- The use of Tele Cart may be used to initiate evaluation/treatment or provide direction of therapy session

When possible, alternate days patients are being seen for PT and OT.

- For example, PT sees patient on Monday, OT sees patient on Tuesday, etc.
- Continue to assign frequency and acuity as normal.
- An exception to this would be if the patient requires a note for discharge or has a specific request from a provider.

Any COVID + or PUI requiring a walker, crutches, or gait belt for treatment must be obtained from the nursing unit. **Nursing can order this equipment from Lawson if needed.**

If equipment goes in the room, it stays in the room.

- Includes walkers, crutches, gait belts, reachers, sock aides, splints, etc.
- No wheelchairs in positive or PUI rooms
- No EVA walkers in positive or PUI rooms
- No MOVEO or Sara Plus in room.

After using equipment in patients' room, wipe with purple wipe and leave in patient room.

Equipment is to come from the individual nursing unit.

Spain Rehab Center

No PUIs or COVID+ patients will be admitted to SRC in order to contain the virus to already designated areas. Patients meeting rehab admission criteria may discharge to SRC once deemed negative by way of testing and approved for admission.

Please send questions to Jeanette Ray.