

Telephone: General Lines: 256 – 417 – 712260  
Permanent Secretary's Office: 256 – 417 – 712221  
Toll Free 0800100066

E-mail: [ps@health.go.ug](mailto:ps@health.go.ug)  
Website: [www.health.go.ug](http://www.health.go.ug)



Ministry of Health  
P. O. Box 7272  
Plot 6, Lourdel Road  
KAMPALA  
UGANDA

IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON

THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE NO **ADM: 105/197/01**

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

To All health facilities throughout the country

## **COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE CASE DEFINITIONS**

The Government of Uganda has declared the COVID-19 a national emergency. The National Task Force (NTF) activated the COVID-19 Incident Management System with an Incident Manager to coordinate the implementation of various preparedness activities. In order to enhance surveillance for COVID-19, the following case definitions have been developed to enable quick detection and prompt response.

### **Community case definition**

Any person or groups of persons with flu-like symptoms such as fever, running nose, sneezing, cough, sore throat and difficulty in breathing

### **Suspect case**

- A. Any person with acute respiratory illness with high temperature (above 37.5°C) and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), **AND** a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of COVID-19 during the last 14 days prior to symptom onset;

### **OR**

- B. Any person with any acute respiratory illness **AND** having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case in the last 14 days prior to onset of symptoms;

### **OR**

- C. Any person with severe acute respiratory infection with high temperature (above 37.5°C) and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness breath **AND** requiring hospitalization) **AND** in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

### **Probable case:**

- A. A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 virus is inconclusive

OR

- B. A suspect case for whom testing could not be performed for any reason

**Confirmed case:** A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms

**Contacts**

In case you receive or see a patient or a person presenting fulfilling the above case definitions please contact Ministry of Health on the following lines immediately on 0900203033 or 0800100066(Toll free lines)