

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

For information on how NICE is supporting the NHS and social care, view our new [rapid guidelines and evidence reviews](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331052542/https://www.nice.org.uk/coronavirus) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331052542/https://www.nice.org.uk/coronavirus>).

Learn about the [government response to coronavirus on GOV.UK](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331052542/https://gov.uk/coronavirus) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331052542/https://gov.uk/coronavirus>).

[Guidance \(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159)

[Tools and resources](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/resources)

[\(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/resources\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/resources)

[Overview \(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159)

[1 Admission to hospital](#)



[2 Admission to critical care](#)

[\(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/2-Admission-to-critical-care\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/2-Admission-to-critical-care)

[3 Starting, reviewing and stopping critical care treatment](#)

[\(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/3-Starting-reviewing-and-stopping-critical-care-treatment\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/3-Starting-reviewing-and-stopping-critical-care-treatment)

[4 Clinical decision-making](#)

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[5 Service organisation](#)

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[Update information](#)

[\(/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/Update-information\)](/web/20200331092821/https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159/chapter/Update-information)

Guidance

1 Admission to hospital

- 1.1 On admission to hospital, assess all adults for frailty, irrespective of COVID-19 status.
- Use the [Clinical Frailty Scale](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://static1.squarespace.com/static) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://static1.squarespace.com/static> (CFS), available from the [NHS Specialised Clinical Frailty Network](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.scfn.org.uk/) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.scfn.org.uk/>), as part of a holistic assessment.
 - Be aware of the limitations of using the CFS as the sole assessment of frailty. The CFS should not be used in younger people, people with stable long-term disabilities (for example, cerebral palsy), learning disabilities or autism. An individualised assessment is recommended in all cases where the CFS is not appropriate.
 - Consider comorbidities and underlying health conditions in all cases.
 - Record the frailty assessment in the patient's medical record.
[amended 25 March 2020]
- 1.2 When patients with possible COVID-19 have been identified, follow appropriate [UK government guidance on infection prevention and control measures](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>). This includes recommendations on:
- patient transfers and transport
 - segregation and cohorting
 - personal protective equipment
 - aerosol-generating procedures.
- 1.3 If COVID-19 is diagnosed in someone not isolated from admission or presentation, follow [UK government guidance on actions required when a case was not diagnosed on admission](https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/19-guidance-for-healthcare-providers-who-have-diagnosed-a-case-within-their-facility/covid-19-actions-required-when-a-case-was-not-diagnosed-on-admission) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200331092821/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/19-guidance-for-healthcare-providers-who-have-diagnosed-a-case-within-their-facility/covid-19-actions-required-when-a-case-was-not-diagnosed-on-admission>).