

IOIBD Recommendations: Best Practice Guidance for Adult Infusion Centers during the COVID 19 Pandemic

from:

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Center Guidance*

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Aim: provide practical
guidance for adult
infusion center
operations

Health and safety of
patients and
personnel-top priority

Guidance document
focuses on*

(i.e. *where national/local
guidelines and practice
should apply)

Patients

Personnel

Clinic Operations

General



Patients	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-screen for symptoms/exposure 24-48 hours before scheduled infusion 2. Self isolate if respiratory sx, anosmia, abrupt change in gastrointestinal symptoms 3. If positive SARS-COV-2 infection, reschedule infusion only after a negative check, or 2 weeks 4. Patients must come unaccompanied
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Clinic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff pooling 2. Separate from other departments/patients 3. Rescreen patients and temperature check 4. Social distancing and hygiene: 2 m between staff/patients, between patients; clean chairs between patients 5. Personnel protection: gloves and surgical masks. Where applicable full personal protection equipment including N95 masks and waterproof gown should be readily available 6. Patients should use nose-mouth masks 7. IFX infusion time 30-60 minutes where possible; Where available intravenous drugs should be switched to injections of the same drugs; consider increasing intervals between infusions 8. Convert premedication to oral 9. Update contact details
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Personnel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daily personal symptom assessment, health statement and temperature check 2. Glove removal and hand washing between patient encounters
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General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infusion clinic-an essential service 2. Prioritize SARS- COV2 tests for personnel and patients 3. Postpone/avoid unnecessary laboratory/TDM tests 4. Provide COVID-IBD related information (no hard copies) 5. Provide access to guidance/help/support lines 6. Extend operating hours to accommodate infusions 7. Home infusions are not recommended due to safety issues, medical and logistic efficiency <p>https://www.ioibd.org/ioibd-update-on-covid19-for-patients-with-crohns-disease-and-ulcerative-colitis/</p>
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