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

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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. Guidance should be implemented in the context of national/local public health guidelines)

- Patients
- Personnel
- Clinic Operations
- General

### Main recommendations INFUSION CENTER GUIDANCE re COVID-19 and IBD  
**date:** 06 May 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Main recommendations</th>
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| **Patients** | 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, schedule infusion only after a negative swab, or 2 weeks after symptoms resolve  
4. Patients must come unaccompanied when possible |
| **Clinic** | 1. Staff pooling  
2. Separate from other departments/patients  
3. Rescreen patients and temperature check at check-in  
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. To limit contact time in clinic consider:  
   a) Rapid infusion protocols  
   b) Switching any pre-meds to injectable or oral  
   c) Take premeds at home as required  
8. Update contact details at each visit to facilitate contact tracing in event a patient is/becomes SARS-COV2 positive |
| **Personnel** | 1. Daily personal symptom assessment, health statement and temperature check  
2. Glove removal and hand washing between patient encounters  
3. Log off where personnel is working /has worked if individual works in multiple locations |
| **General** | 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 discouraged due to safety issues, medical and logistic efficiency  