



**ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE  
SEARCH & RESCUE**  
*Saving Lives on the Water*

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## Standard Operating Procedures

### **COVID 19 SAR Volunteer Hailing and Boarding Instructions - Updated**

March 17, 2020

All RCMSAR members will adhere to the following procedures when hailing or considering boarding a vessel.

| Step | Self-Assessment  |
|------|--|
| 1    | <p>On scene screening may be required if there is incomplete information, lack of initial screening or to validate screening information.</p> <p>Questions should be directed to the Captain of the subject vessel.</p> <p><u>Screening Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A) What are the concerning signs or symptoms? Do they fall within known COVID-19 Symptoms (Fever, Cough, Difficulty Breathing, Sneezing, Sore Throat)</li><li>B) Has the patient travelled to or transited through a location with confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?</li><li>C) Has the patient been in close contact (respiratory fluids contact possible) with a suspected case of COVID-19 or close contact with someone who has travelled or transited through a location with confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?</li><li>D) What is the time of onset of the illness? (how many hours or days ago?)</li><li>E) What happened over time that prompted a call for help now? (What changes in the patient's condition occurred?)</li><li>F) What is the patient's age, and does the patient have any other known health problems such as diabetes, heart, lung or kidney disease?</li></ul> |



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|---|--|
| 2 | Answers from these questions shall be logged and reported to the JRCC.   |
| 3 | <b>IF suspected COVID-19 exposure:</b><br><br><b>Do not board vessel, request CCG asset respond, and standby.</b><br><br>If the patient is assessed as requiring life saving interventions, Medivac or first aid shall only take place if all crew agree. As always, this decision remains at the discretion of the Coxswain and Crew and should be reflected in an updated GAR/risk analysis. |
| 4 | If the decision is made that the RCMSAR asset is not able/willing to respond, this decision must be relayed to the JRCC.   |