**Learning Disability COVID-19 symptom presentation**

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| **COVID Symptom and common presentation in LD:** | **Differential diagnosis and tools and considerations:** |
| **Fever (body temperature 37.8 degrees or higher):**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Hot chest or back | 2. Person looks hot, flushed and sweaty | | 3. Person is shivery | 4. **Changes in behaviour**, ie taking clothes off to cool down | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Other infection - UTI | 2. Other respiratory condition | | 3. Sepsis | 4. Dehydration | |
| **Persistent Cough**   |  | | --- | | 1. New Cough - Coughing for 1hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs | | 2. Existing Cough - May have an increase in length of coughing | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Other infection - UTI | 2. Other respiratory condition | | 3. Sepsis | 4. Dehydration | |
| **Sensory changes (taste/smell):**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Loss of appetite | 2. Weight Loss | | 3. **Fatigue** | 4. Dislike of usual favourite foods/smells/fabric items | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Dysphagia | 2. Cold/Flu | | **Offer favourite food/item** | | |
| **Aches and pains:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Becomes withdrawn | 2. **Change in behaviour** | | 3. Increase in distress/behaviour | 4. Hitting/holding specific part of body | | 5. Verbal/Non-verbal communication | 6. Becoming upset, crying, whimpering | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Other infection – viral | 2. Falls/fracture | | 3. Dental Pain | 4. Menstrual pain | | 5. Stomach/chest pain | **Use DisDat tool/pain scale** | |
| **Breathing difficulties:**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1. Chest Retractions | 2. Wheezing | 3. Shortness of breath | | 4. increased breathing rate | 5. Cyanosis | 6. Grunting | | 6. Nose flaring | 7. Sweating | 8. Prominent muscles when breathing | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Allergies | 2. Asthma | | 3. Cardiac health **(999)** | 4. COPD | | 5. Hypo/Hyperthyroidism | **Check Posture/positioning** | | **Check O2 Levels (SATs probe)** | | |
| **Sore throat:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. **Loss of appetite** | 3. Reluctance to eat | | 3. Swollen glands | 4.Verbal/Non-verbal communication of pain **(See Aches and pains)** | | 4. Weight loss | 6. Change in behaviour/increase in behaviour that challenges | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Cough/Cold | 2. Laryngitis | | 3. Epiglottitis | 4. Oral Thrush | | 5. Dehydration |  | |
| **Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting (not common):**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. **Loss of appetite** | 2. **Fatigue** | |  |  | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Food poisoning | 2. Seasonal bug | | 3. Constipation | 4. Dehydration | | **Monitor Bowels – Bristol Stool Chart** | | |
| **Dizziness, drowsiness, decrease in alertness:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Unsteady on feet | 2. Increased falls | | 3. Confusion | 4. **Fatigue** | | 5. New neurological symptoms - seizures | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Blood pressure | 2. Diabetes | | 3. Medication side effect | 4. Dehydration | | 5. Other infection | 6. Hypo/Hyperthyroidism | |
| **Rash:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Early Symptom | 2. Could be ‘mottled’ | |  |  | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. Allergies | 2. Heat | | 3. Medication side effect | 4. Eczema | | 5. Dermatitis | 6. Other infection - meningitis | |