

Learning Disability COVID-19 symptom presentation

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 Becomes withdrawn 2.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