



# COVIDIGEST

SERIES NO. 6

## NEW CLASSIFICATION OF COVID-19

On April 11, the Department of Health has modified the classification of COVID-19. Instead of using 'Person Under Investigation (PUI)' or 'Person Under Monitoring (PUM)', those under watch will be called "Suspect", "Probable", and "Confirmed" cases.

OLD CLASSIFICATION		NEW CLASSIFICATION
Not a PUM or PUI	→	Not a COVID-19 case
PUM	→	Not included in the new classification
PUI (mild, severe, critical) but have not yet undergone testing	→	Suspect
PUI (mild, severe, critical) where test results for COVID-19 are inconclusive	→	Probable
COVID-19 Positive	→	Confirmed

Declaration of any of the classifications below is only official if it comes from the office of public health authorities such as the City/Municipal/Provincial Health Office, the Epidemiology Surveillance and Unit, the Epidemiology Bureau and/or the Department of Health.

### SUSPECT CASE

The following may be considered a "suspect case" of COVID-19:



Individual with influenza-like illness such as fever of 38°C and cough or sore throat, and during the 14 days prior to the onset of symptoms had:

- ✓ travel history to areas with confirmed local transmission
- ✓ exposure to a confirmed case



Individual with fever, cough, or shortness of breath and is one of the following:

- ✓ 60 years old and above
- ✓ with pre-existing illness
- ✓ in high-risk pregnancy
- ✓ a health worker



Individual with severe acute respiratory illness requiring hospitalization, and in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation

### PROBABLE CASE

The following may be considered a "probable case" of COVID-19:



A suspect case who has been tested for COVID-19 but the results are inconclusive



A suspect case who has tested positive for COVID-19 but the test was not conducted in an official accredited laboratory

### CONFIRMED CASE



A person is considered a 'confirmed case' of COVID-19 only if the result of Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing, which assays the detection of COVID-19, is positive.