

*Jackson County Medical Control Authority*  
**Community Paramedicine Protocols**  
UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTION

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***Upper Respiratory Infection***

**Indications:** This protocol provides general guidance for the evaluation of patients with presumed upper respiratory infection complaints under the Community Paramedicine Program. The CPU will respond to a residence on request from the primary care provider, on request by the patient through 911 triage or on referral from ALS 911 response. The CP will follow guidelines outlined by the primary care providers or on-line medical direction orders.

**Purpose:** To assess the patient with upper respiratory complaints and differentiate patient who can be treated supportively vs those who will require ED evaluation.

**CPU Directives:**

1. Follow **General Protocol for CPU Patient Assessments**.
2. Obtain and review patient health history and primary care provider's orders prior to evaluation when available.
3. Patients with significant abnormalities in vital signs or hypoxia on room air or their prescribed home oxygen should be transported for ED evaluations.
4. If the patient has wheezing treat per the **Asthma/COPD** protocol.
5. Provided there is no fever, hypoxia or significant wheezing not cleared with treatment, the patient may be a candidate for home supportive treatment.
6. Contact the PCP or on-line medical direction per the **General Protocol for CPU Patient Assessments** along with the patient report and discuss treatment and continuity plans.
7. Continue treatment and follow the **General Protocol for CPU Patient Assessments** until a disposition is determined and continuity plan completed.