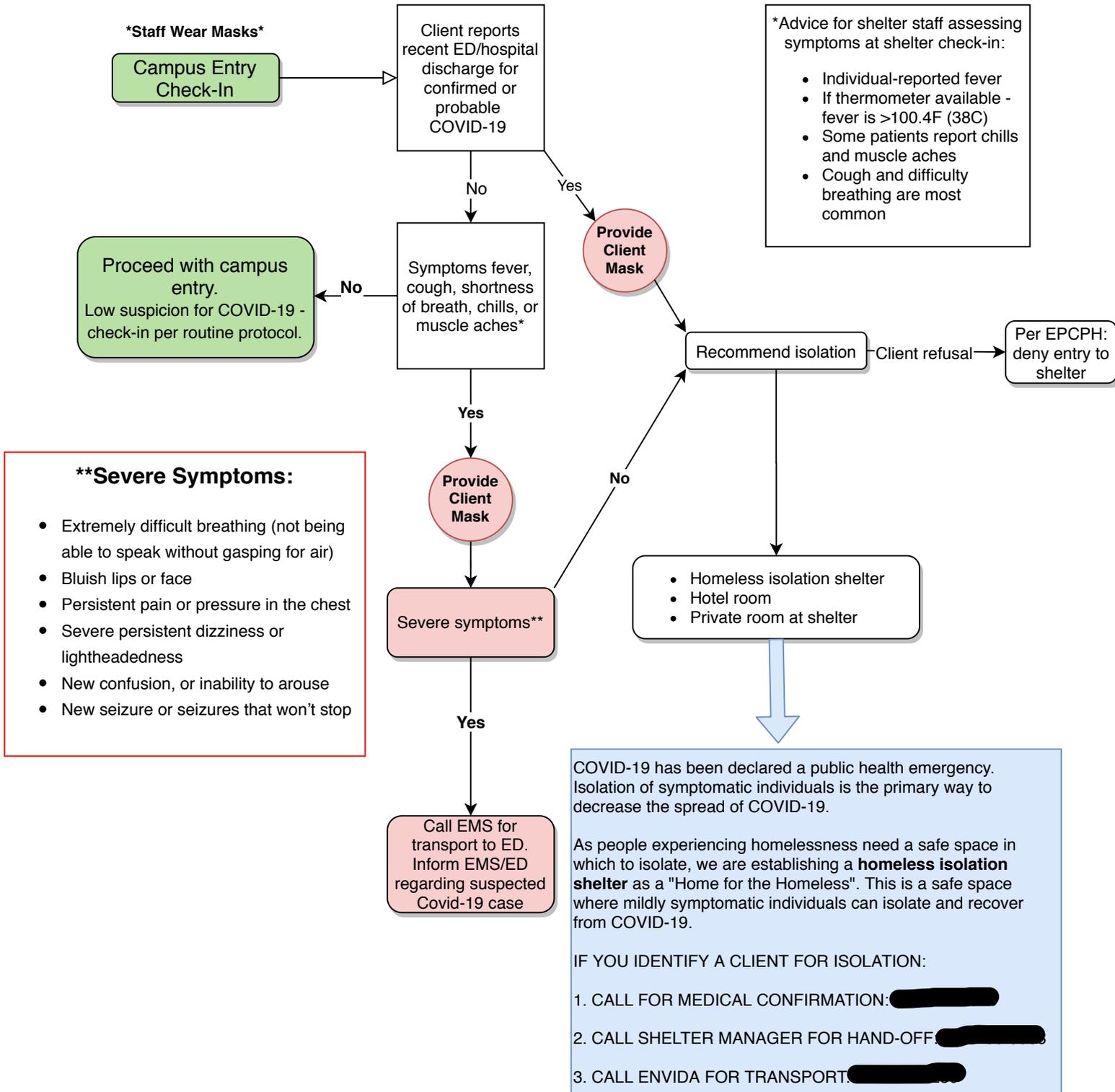# Shelter Entry Algorithm

General triage information and decision tree for check-in and referral to the Homeless Isolation Shelter or Emergency Department

Staff Wear Masks

[Campus Entry Check-In] → [Client reports recent ED/hospital discharge for confirmed or probable COVID-19]

*Advice for shelter staff assessing symptoms at shelter check-in:

- Individual-reported fever
- If thermometer available - fever is >100.4F (38C)
- Some patients report chills and muscle aches
- Cough and difficulty breathing are most common

No → [Proceed with campus entry. Low suspicion for COVID-19 - check-in per routine protocol.]

Client reports recent ED/hospital discharge — No → Symptoms fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, or muscle aches*

Client reports recent ED/hospital discharge — Yes → **Provide Client Mask**

Provide Client Mask → Recommend isolation

Recommend isolation — Client refusal → Per EPCPH: deny entry to shelter

Symptoms — **Yes** → **Provide Client Mask** → Severe symptoms**

Severe symptoms** — **No** → Recommend isolation

****Severe Symptoms:**

- Extremely difficult breathing (not being able to speak without gasping for air)
- Bluish lips or face
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Severe persistent dizziness or lightheadedness
- New confusion, or inability to arouse
- New seizure or seizures that won't stop

Recommend isolation →
- Homeless isolation shelter
- Hotel room
- Private room at shelter

Severe symptoms** — **Yes** → Call EMS for transport to ED. Inform EMS/ED regarding suspected Covid-19 case

COVID-19 has been declared a public health emergency. Isolation of symptomatic individuals is the primary way to decrease the spread of COVID-19.

As people experiencing homelessness need a safe space in which to isolate, we are establishing a **homeless isolation shelter** as a "Home for the Homeless". This is a safe space where mildly symptomatic individuals can isolate and recover from COVID-19.

IF YOU IDENTIFY A CLIENT FOR ISOLATION:

1. CALL FOR MEDICAL CONFIRMATION: ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

2. CALL SHELTER MANAGER FOR HAND-OFF: ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

3. CALL ENVIDA FOR TRANSPORT: ▮▮▮▮▮▮

Due to limitations in testing, only patients admitted to the hospital will undergo COVID-19 testing; patients with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are considered "probable positive" and are recommended to self-isolate while waiting for symptom resolution. EPCH advises that 80% of patients with known or "probable positive" COVID-19 can care for themselves at home.