COVID-19 Guidelines

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Last revised: August 6, 2020 FOR INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION ONLY



Summary of PPE Guidance Changes (refer to slide 25)

- Healthcare Providers (HCP) should utilize Airborne Plus precautions for aerosol-generating procedures (AGP) on patients transferred from post-acute facilities (nursing home, long term care, assisted living, etc.), regardless of their COVID-19 status.
- Guidance for Cardiac Rehab:
 - Patients should be placed greater than 12 feet apart
 - If HCP are within 12 feet of patient, they should wear N95 respirator, face shield, and gloves
 - Staff, wearing appropriate PPE, should disinfect equipment between patients



COVID-19 Patient Status Categories

Patients are grouped into Symptomatic and Asymptomatic categories. The PPE rubric on the following pages reflects these new patient groups.

• Symptomatic Patients:

- PUI (Person Under Investigation, COVID Status Unknown)
- COVID Positive (COVID Testing Positive)
- Presumptive Positive PUI (Molecular test negative, Antibody test positive & additional clinical assessment and testing is needed)
- Presumptive Negative PUI (Both Molecular test and Antibody test are negative, but patient has Clinical Risk Factors and additional assessment and testing is needed)

• Asymptomatic Patients:

- COVID Negative (COVID Testing Negative)
- NON-COVID PATIENT (Patient not tested, COVID status unknown)

DEPARTMENT	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
	(PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with	
	Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	



Universal Masking Guidance

All persons entering a hospital or clinic will be required to wear a face mask.

- Patients and visitors:
 - Upon entry to the facility, patients and visitors will be provided a face mask to wear and continue to be screened.
 - Hospital-issued face masks are preferred over cloth and/or homemade masks.
 - Face masks must be worn when a care team member is in the room
 - Time in public areas should be minimized. Face mask must be worn and safe social distancing observed while outside of the patient room.
 - The same face mask can be worn until soiled or individuals have left the facility.
- Vendors and delivery personnel should continue existing check-in procedures and wear a face mask at all times.
- Employees and physicians should follow department-specific guidance and wear a facemask in public areas.



General Masking Guidelines – All Employees

This procedure should be followed each time a face mask/N95 change is required:

- 1. Perform appropriate hand hygiene.
- 2. Remove your face mask/N95 and discard.
- 3. Perform appropriate hand hygiene.
- 4. Put on a face mask/ N95 before entering a patient's room or patient care area.
- 5. Replace face mask/ N95 if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care and discard after leaving patient room or care area.
- 6. Throw away your face mask/ N95 at the end of your shift and anytime it becomes damp or soiled.

Masking guidelines for common/public areas:

- The same face mask may be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas.
- Face masks should be worn in common/public areas while maintaining safe social distancing.
- "Safe social distancing" is considered six feet or greater.
- Face masks should be changed if they become damp, soiled, or contaminated.
- See department-specific guidelines for further guidance and information.



PPE Guidelines – Emergency Department (1/2)

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, PTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated: a) Droplet Plus precautions • Face mask/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions • N95 respirator/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non- isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Aerosol- generating procedures such as Nebulizers, CPAP, intubation/ extubation, CPR and others listed in COVID-19 Guidance Manual General Infection Control Guidelines p. 11	 Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non- isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines - Emergency Department (2/2)

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
EVS	 Droplet Plus precautions if room is occupied: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves Facemask and other routine PPE if room is empty Face mask should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure. N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Patient Access	 Droplet Plus precautions in patient room: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves If aerosol-generating procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering. 	 Facemask Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation



PPE Guidelines – Inpatient Units (1/3)

<u>INPATIENT</u>	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or	COVID Negative or
<u>UNITS</u>	Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, PTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	 Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated: a) Droplet Plus precautions Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves For COVID+ patients on cohorted units: The same Face Mask/N95, Face Shield, and gown can be worn when caring for multiple patients, with the following caveats: PPE should be changed anytime there is suspected/actual contamination If patient is being isolated for another infection in addition to COVID-19 (e.g., MRSA, C. diff), then all PPE should be removed after the care of that patient All PPE should be changed and hand hygiene performed between each patient 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation



PPE Guidelines – Inpatient Units (2/3)

INPATIENT UNITS (excluding Neonatai ICU)	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Aerosol-generating procedures such as Nebulizers, intubation/ extubation, etc listed in COVID-19 Guidance Manual General Infection Control Guidelines p. 11	 Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions
		 N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves

PPE Guidelines – Inpatient Units (3/3)

INPATIENT UNITS	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
EVS	 Droplet Plus precautions if room is occupied: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves Face mask and other routine PPE if room is empty Face Mask should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Patient Access	 Droplet Plus precautions in patient room: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves If aerosol-generating procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering. 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation



PPE Guidelines: OR/PACU/Procedure areas (1/2)

OR/PROCEDURE AREAS	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated: a) Droplet Plus precautions • Face mask/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions • N95 respirator/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non- isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Aerosol-generating procedures such as Nebulizers, intubation/ extubation, cautery use and others listed in COVID-19 Guidance Manual General Infection Control Guidelines	 Airborne Plus N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves Intubation/extubation should occur with only essential airway staff in the OR/procedure room. Other staff members should wait for appropriate number of air exchanges prior to entering. (Please check with OR leader for air exchange time as this 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non- isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
p. 11	varies by facility.)	NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions

- N95 respirator / Face shield
- Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines: OR/PACU/Procedure areas (2/2)

OR/PROCEDURE AREAS	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
EVS	 Droplet Plus precautions if room is occupied: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves Face mask and other routine PPE if room is empty Face Mask should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves Other routine PPE should continue as appropriate for end-of-day terminal clean. An effort should be made to wait until appropriate air exchanges have occurred if an aerosol-generating procedure was performed. 	Face mask only and appropriate OR/Procedural Are PPE. Wait for appropriate number of air exchanges prior entering if cleaning after a Non-COVID. (Please chec with OR leader for air exchange time as this varies b facility.)



PPE Guidelines – Women's Services (1/5)

WOMEN'S SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
First stage of labor Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	 Place patient in negative pressure room if available. Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated: a) Droplet Plus precautions: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions: N95 respirator/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Second stage of labor through vaginal delivery and during intubation Direct clinical care givers (Provider and RN)	Mother – Face mask if possible Airborne Plus • N95 respirator / Face Shield • Gown / Gloves	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines – Women's Services (2/5)

WOMEN'S SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Delivery by C-section Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, scrub tech, etc.)	 Airborne Plus N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves Other routine PPE should continue as appropriate **Electrocautery covered when wearing Airborne Plus 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
NICU team at delivery	 Airborne Plus N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves 	 Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines – Women's Services (3/5)

WOMEN'S SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Antepartum and Mother/Baby Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, PTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	 Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated as follows: a) Droplet Plus precautions: Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions: N95 respirator/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves If infant rooming in with mom, place infant greater than six feet from mom and have mom wear facemask. If infant in nursery, place infant in single room, if available. If pod setting, place infant >6 feet from other infants. 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Aerosol-generating procedures such as Nebulizers, intubation/ extubation, CPR and others listed in COVID-19 Guidance Manual General Infection Control Guidelines p. 11	 Airborne Plus for adults only; see NICU section for newborn guidelines N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines – Women's Services (4/5)

WOMEN'S SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
NICU Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, PTs, RTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	 Droplet Plus for patients on NC 1 LPM or less Single patient room if available or minimum 6 feet and a physical barrier between patients. Facemask / Face Shield Gown / Gloves Airborne Plus for patients on High Flow Nasal Cannula 2 LPM** or greater, CPAP, or ventilator ** This is an increase from previous level of greater than 1 LPM Single patient room ALWAYS N95 respirator / Face Shield Gown / Gloves	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation



PPE Guidelines – Women's Services (5/5)

WOMEN'S SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
EVS	 Droplet Plus precautions if room is occupied: Face mask/ Eye Protection Gown/ Gloves Facemask and other routine PPE if room is empty Face mask should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation
Patient Access	Droplet Plus precautions: Face mask/ Eye Protection Gown/ Gloves If aerosol-generating procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering.	



PPE Guidelines – Outpatient Services excluding procedural areas (1/2)

OUTPATIENT SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct clinical care givers (Providers, RNs, PCTs, RTs, PTs, rad tech, lab tech, etc.)	Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated as follows: a) Droplet Plus precautions: • Face mask/ Face shield • Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions: • N95 respirator/ Face shield • Gown/ Gloves	 Facemask Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation
Aerosol-generating procedure (Nebulizers, CPAP, intubation/ extubation, CPR)	 Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 COVID Negative = Negative Test Result Patient: Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non- isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation NON-COVID = Non-Tested patient: Airborne Plus precautions N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves



PPE Guidelines – Outpatient Services excluding procedural areas (2/2)

<u>OUTPATIENT</u>	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
EVS	 Droplet Plus if room is occupied Facemask / Face shield Gown / Gloves Facemask and other routine PPE if room is empty Mask should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves 	 Facemask Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Other routine PPE should continue as appropriate. Airborne Plus if cleaning within one hour of aerosol-generating procedure on a Non-COVID patient. N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves
Patient Access	 Droplet Plus if in patient room Facemask / Face shield Gown / Gloves If aerosol-generating procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering. 	 Facemask Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation

PPE Guidelines – Laboratory & Pharmacy Services

LAB SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct patient care (Individuals entering patient rooms)	Droplet Plus or Airborne Plus precautions as clinically indicated: a) Droplet Plus precautions • Face mask/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves b) Airborne Plus precautions • N95 respirator/ Face Shield • Gown/ Gloves If aerosolizing procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering.	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation
Laboratory and pharmacy personnel within department	Facemask • Replace if damp, soiled or contaminated Other PPE per standard laboratory and pharmacy protocol	



PPE Guidelines – Food and Nutrition Services

FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Direct patient care (Individuals entering patient rooms)	 Droplet Plus precautions Face mask/ Face Shield Gown/ Gloves If aerosolizing procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering. 	 Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate. Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if it becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while interacting with patient Replace each time after interacting with a patient in isolation
Food and Nutrition staff within department	Facemask and other routine PPE as appropriate.Replace if damp, soiled or contaminated	

PPE Guidelines – Other Support Services

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Other support services (e.g. Engineering, BioMed, Security)	 Droplet Plus if room is occupied Facemask / Face shield Gown / Gloves If aerosol-generating procedure occurred, wait one hour prior to entering. Other PPE per standard department protocol 	 Facemask Should be worn continuously between rooms of non-isolated patients and in common areas Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care Replace each time after interacting with isolation patient
Screeners/Greeters	 Facemask Should be worn continuously in common areas and at entrances. Replace if mask becomes damp, soiled, contaminated, or there is suspicion of contamination while providing patient care. Replace each time after caring for a patient in isolation 	



PPE Guidelines – THPG

<u>THPG</u>	ALL PATIENTS
All staff	 All employees and providers will now be required to wear face masks (formerly referred to as surgical or isolation masks) continuously while in any building that provides patient care. The mask should be changed daily, or when it is obviously wet or soiled. Wash or foam hands before and after changing face masks Remove and discard the face mask after leaving the exam room of a patient suspected for COVID-19 and replace with a new mask before entering the next patient room.
Receptionists/ Front-desk staff	 Wear gloves and use hand sanitizer (on the gloves) between patients at reception. Gloves should be changed daily – sooner if they become torn or soiled. Minimize exchange of items. For example, allow patient to insert credit card in the machine where possible. Staff should also encourage patients to use hand sanitizer before handing objects to an employee and after taking the object back. Staff should always perform hand hygiene before and after glove use.
Aerosolizing procedures (Nebulizers)	 These treatments are reserved for patients in severe distress. If possible, have the patient perform nebulizer treatments in the home. For those patients who are in severe distress and the decision is made to provide the treatment, consideration should be given to doing the treatment in a lesser-used room. Following a nebulizer treatment, close the door. The room should be left dormant until the next day, and cleaned before use. Staff who must enter the room during the treatment should wear N95 respirators and eye protection. Stethoscopes should be thoroughly cleaned after use, or disposable stethoscopes may be used. If provider has not been fit tested, AND YOU MUST DO LIFE SAVING NEBULIZER TREATMENT, start the patient on the nebulizer after you exit the room. When the treatment is complete, have the patient mask and exit the room, and move the patient to another exam room to complete the encounter. During the treatment, monitor the patient to the best of your ability from outside the room.





PPE Guidelines – Special Circumstances/FAQs

SITUATION	RESPONSE
Individuals with respiratory issues or other health issues	 Please contact Employee Health to discuss accommodation needs and/or best alternatives.
Personal N95 respirators and homemade masks	 Personal N95 respirators and homemade masks are not allowed and should not be worn in the facility at this time.
Hair covers and shoe covers	There is no guidance from the CDC for wearing hair protection or shoe covers because it is unlikely that you would acquire the virus through contaminated hair or shoes. However, Texas Health clinical leaders will continue to look at information and consider if hair protection or shoe covers are recommended in the future. If you do wear your own head cover, you need to wash it every day. Keep hair tucked inside the head cover.
Face mask usage in private areas	 If you are in a private office or work in an isolated/controlled area, you may choose to remove your face mask. Before removing mask, lay clean paper towel down on a clean surface ✓ Perform hand hygiene ✓ Remove mask and lay exterior face down on paper towel ✓ Perform hand hygiene again ✓ When reapplying Face mask, perform hand hygiene and place interior side of mask to your face ✓ Discard paper towel and perform hand hygiene



PPE Guidelines – Special Circumstances/FAQs

SITUATION	RESPONSE
N95 and face mask skin care	 Here are some tips to keep your face fresh and reduce skin breakdown: "Double wash" your face with the correct cleanser for skin type, before and after work Moisturize face with water-based moisturizers Avoid wearing make-up Exfoliation two or three times per week (depending on skin type) may also help
PPE for aerosol-generating procedures on patients from post-acute facilities (nursing homes, long-term care, assisted living, etc.)	 HCP should use airborne plus precautions for aerosol-generating procedures on patients from post-acute care facilities (i.e., nursing home, long-term care, assisted living, etc.) regardless of their COVID- 19 status.
Cardiac Rehab	 Patients should be placed greater than 12 feet apart If HCP are within 12 feet of patient, they should wear N95 respirator, face shield, and gloves Staff, wearing appropriate PPE, should disinfect equipment between patients



General Considerations to Conserve PPE

- Cluster all patient care activities to limit entries into the patient's room as much as possible
- Place IV pump outside of the door in order to prevent multiple entries into patient's room. Please avoid using multiple extension sets to lengthen the tubing. (See ECRI Recommendations)
- During a code, limit the number of people in the room. Position additional team members outside of room to help, if needed.
- Pastoral Care/Care Transition Management can provide consultations through the window or by phone
- Document outside of the patient's room
- Utilize dual medication sign-off strategies to limit number of staff in the room
- Cohort confirmed positive COVID-19 patients



Considerations to Conserve PPE

PPE	PUI, COVID Positive, Presumptive Positive (PUI), or Presumptive Negative (PUI) with Clinical Risk Factors PATIENT	COVID Negative or NON-COVID PATIENT
Gloves	Gather all supplies, equipment and/or medications prior to entering room	Gather all supplies, equipment and/or medications prior to entering room
Gowns	 Gather all supplies, equipment and/or medications prior to entering room. Ask for assistance if you need additional items. They can be delivered to you. 	 Only use as part of standard precautions (when there is potential for exposure to blood/body fluids) or if patient is in contact isolation. Discontinue routine contact isolation in NICU for MRSA colonization
Face Masks	Switch Between Patients/Rooms unless caring for a cohorted unit of confirmed COVID positive patients.	Use one mask per shift unless moist/soiled/contaminated
N95 Masks	Use for Aerosol Generating Procedures Only. Otherwise, do not use unless patient is in airborne isolation for another disease (i.e., TB, measles)	 Airborne Plus if clinically appropriate for Non-COVID patient (i.e. TB, measles, etc.) N95 respirator / Face shield Gown / Gloves
Face Shields	Disinfect between uses	Only use as part of standard precautions (when there is potential for exposure to blood/body fluids)
Goggles	Future - Disinfect between uses	Only use as part of standard precautions (when there is potential for exposure to blood/body fluids)



Protecting our friends and family

We know that keeping our friends and family safe is a top priority. Here are some simple tips:

Have everyone use everyday preventative actions:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth ٠
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash ٠
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces ٠
- Watch for early signs and symptoms in yourself and family members (fever, cough, shortness of breath) ٠
- Stay informed about the local outbreak situation ٠

If you or someone in your household become sick:

- Stay home from work ٠
- Contact your healthcare provider ٠
- If possible, keep the ill person in a separate room from others in the household ٠
- Keep surfaces disinfected ٠
- Avoid sharing personal items ٠
- Follow recommended precautions and monitor your own health ٠
- Notify your work if your schedule needs to change ٠
- Stay in contact with others by phone, email or other social channels ٠
- Take care of the emotional health of your household members, including yourself!

