

SUMMARY OF UPDATES

The following sections have been updated as of 5/14/2021:

- 1) PPE for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 Patients
- 2) PPE in healthcare facilities
- 3) PPE in non-clinical areas

Purpose	<p>To provide guidance for (1) PPE use for suspected and confirmed COVID19 patients, (2) N95 respirator use or equivalent/higher, (3) universal PPE wear in all areas.</p> <p>Please note, all guidance is subject to change as additional information becomes available.</p>
Scope	NYC Health + Hospitals Health System
Requirements	<p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</p> <p>New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)</p>
Universal PPE in All Areas	<p>All personnel (staff, faculty, students, and volunteers), regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a facemask all the time on NYC H+H property.</p> <p>NYC H+H issued facemasks are required in all clinical locations and areas where patients may be present.</p> <p>In addition to universal facemask wear, specific transmission-based precautions are to be followed if applicable.</p>
PPE for Confirmed or Possible SARS-CoV-2 Infection	<p>PPE for HCPs Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible SARS-CoV-2 Infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N95 Respirator or equivalent or higher-level respirator • Isolation gown • Gloves (1 pair) • Eye Protection (face shield or goggles) <p>HCP Administering COVID-19 Vaccines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical or procedure mask • Gloves (1 pair) <p>Community Engagement Specialists (CES)/ Contact Tracers/Community Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N95 Respirator OR surgical OR procedure mask • Gloves (1 pair) (as needed)

PPE Guidelines	<p>While on duty, staff working in a clinical area must wear the NYC H+H issued facemask throughout their shift, regardless of being in clinical or public space.</p> <p>Facemasks are source control to prevent COVID-19 transmission and must fit closely to the face and cover the mouth and nose.</p> <p>Facemasks are not required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When an individual is alone in a private office. A private office is a room with a door and walls to the ceiling and the room is designated for one person and other individuals enter infrequently. • When eating, however staff should maintain social distancing by not sitting closer than 6 feet from each other. <p>Administrative or Non-Clinical Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personnel, regardless of past history of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 and recovered or being fully vaccinated, are required to wear a surgical, procedure, KN95 or cloth masks with two layers. • Scarves, bandanas and cloth masks with exhalation valves are not allowed. <p>* Please note, cloth masks are not personal protective equipment PPE and should NOT be used in place of surgical or procedure masks or NIOSH-approved respirators, OR as a strategy to achieve better fit when wearing a surgical or procedure mask when in clinical care areas.</p> <p>Protective Eyewear – Face shields/Goggles Wear protective eyewear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When providing direct patient care; • During aerosol generating procedures (AGPs); • When working in triage, registration, point of entry or screening areas or any location where an individual may present without a face mask and are unwilling or unable to put on a face mask promptly; • When obtaining nasopharyngeal swab samples; • As indicated by isolation precaution signage. <p>Gloves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear gloves when providing direct patient care of suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patient. • If potential for contact with blood or body fluids, mucous membranes, non-intact skin, potentially contaminated environment is anticipated.
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	<p>Isolation Gown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear isolation gown for direct, close patient contact of suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients; • Upon entry to an open COVID-19 unit
<p>N95 Respirator Use</p>	<p>N95 Respirator User Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The User must be appropriately fit tested and trained on donning and doffing of the N95 respirator upon onboarding, annually, a change in N95 respirator model at the facility or a 10-pound weight gain or loss. <p>N95 respirators or equivalent or higher-level respirators should be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients with confirmed or possible SARS-CoV-2 infection when being evaluated medically • Caring for a patient on Airborne Precautions or Airborne + Contact + Eye Protection Precautions OR Enhanced Droplet + Contact + Eye Protection Precautions • All aerosol-generating procedures regardless of SARS-CoV-2 infection status <p>N95 Extended Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If wearing an N95 respirator and a full face shield the N95 respirator may be worn repeatedly from patient to patient as long as it is not contaminated, wet or damaged. • If wearing a N95 respirator alone, place a surgical mask on top so as to extend the use the N95 repeatedly from patient to patient. Perform seal check after donning simple mask to ensure seal is intact. • Use the same N95 Respirator for the entire shift unless it is damaged, wet or contaminated with patient blood and/or body fluids (includes nasal or respiratory secretions) OR if it becomes difficult to breathe through. • When doing extended use of N95, inspect N95 before each donning to ensure its physical integrity is intact and perform a seal-check to ensure an adequate fit; discard if damaged. • Use a pair of clean (non-sterile) gloves when donning a extended used N95 respirator and performing a user seal check. Discard gloves after the N95 respirator is donned and any adjustments are made to ensure the respirator is sitting comfortably on your face with a good seal. • Clean hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after touching or adjusting the respirator (if necessary for comfort or to maintain fit) • Perform hand hygiene after discarding N95. • Discard N95 respirators following close contact with, or exit from, the care area of any patient co-infected with an infectious disease requiring contact precautions.

	<p>To perform a “seal check,” cover the respirator with one or both hands. Be careful not to disturb the position of the respirator. Inhale and exhale. If air leaks around the nose or edges, re-adjust the respirator. Make sure respirator seals snugly against the face. If you CANNOT achieve a proper seal after adjusting, get an unused respirator. Immediately notify your supervisor with questions.</p> <p><u>DO NOT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do NOT wear an N95 respirator which was already used by someone else. • Do NOT wear an N95 respirator if compromised (e.g., soiled, wet, damaged, etc.). • Do NOT wear an N95 respirator if you have facial hair and cannot obtain a tight seal. • Do NOT remove, adjust or touch the N95 respirator during patient care activities. If wearing a N95 respirator for extended use, avoid touching to front of the mask to minimize risk of self-contamination. <p>An N95 respirator should be exchanged and should NOT be extended use if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaged • Contaminated with patient blood and/or body fluids (including respiratory or nasal secretions) • Physical integrity is not intact (e.g., straps no longer functional) • Cannot achieve adequate fit • Cannot achieve seal • Discard the N95 respirator after use in the regular trash unless free flowing blood noted. <p>Storing N95 for extended use, as applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between uses, store the N95 respirator in a paper bag; label the bag with your name. Perform hand hygiene immediately after placing in bag. • Store the bagged N95 respirator in a convenient location (e.g., cabinet, med cart).
<p>Extended Use of Surgical or Procedure Mask Use</p>	<p>Surgical and Procedure Mask Extended Use Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical and procedure masks may be worn repeatedly from patient to patient and for entire shift unless it is damaged, wet or contaminated with patient blood and/or body fluids (includes nasal or respiratory secretions) OR if it becomes difficult to breathe through. • Discard the surgical or procedure mask in the regular trash unless free flowing blood noted.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not touch front of the mask after use as it is contaminated after use. If during the shift, the mask gets compromised discard and get a new one. 										
<p>Extended Use of Eye Protection – Goggles and Face Shield Use</p>	<p>Eye Protection Extended Use Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye Protection includes face shields or goggles Eye Protection may be worn for an extended period when caring for multiple patients. Eye Protection may be worn from patient to patient if the eye protection is not touched, does not become contaminated with blood or body fluids, and is not removed. <p>To reduce contact transmission after donning, take the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discard face shield or goggle contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients. Perform hand hygiene with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after touching or adjusting the face shield or goggle Discard any face shield, goggle or eyewear that is obviously damaged or is unable to maintain its fit and function 										
<p>Definitions</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Aerosol Generating Procedure</p> </td> <td> <p>Aerosol generating procedure: Any procedure carried out on a patient that may produce infectious aerosols or droplets</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>CAPR/PAPR</p> </td> <td> <p>Continuous, Powered, Air Purifying Respirators</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Clinical Care Encounter</p> </td> <td> <p>An interaction between a patient and healthcare provider(s) for the purpose of providing healthcare service(s) or assessing the health status of a patient.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Enhanced Droplet+Contact+Eye Protection</p> </td> <td> <p>A Transmission-Based Precaution which includes placing patient on Droplet+Contact+Eye Protection and wearing a N95 respirator or equivalent; to be used if Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms (AIIRs) are not available.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Extended Use</p> </td> <td> <p>Refers to the practice of wearing the same PPE for repeated close contact encounters with several patients, without removing the item between patient encounters. Extended use may be implemented when multiple patients are infected with the same respiratory pathogen and patients are placed together in dedicated waiting rooms or hospital wards.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Aerosol Generating Procedure</p>	<p>Aerosol generating procedure: Any procedure carried out on a patient that may produce infectious aerosols or droplets</p>	<p>CAPR/PAPR</p>	<p>Continuous, Powered, Air Purifying Respirators</p>	<p>Clinical Care Encounter</p>	<p>An interaction between a patient and healthcare provider(s) for the purpose of providing healthcare service(s) or assessing the health status of a patient.</p>	<p>Enhanced Droplet+Contact+Eye Protection</p>	<p>A Transmission-Based Precaution which includes placing patient on Droplet+Contact+Eye Protection and wearing a N95 respirator or equivalent; to be used if Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms (AIIRs) are not available.</p>	<p>Extended Use</p>	<p>Refers to the practice of wearing the same PPE for repeated close contact encounters with several patients, without removing the item between patient encounters. Extended use may be implemented when multiple patients are infected with the same respiratory pathogen and patients are placed together in dedicated waiting rooms or hospital wards.</p>
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	<p>Eye Protection</p>	<p>Includes face shield/visors and goggles.</p>
	<p>Healthcare Personnel (HCP)</p>	<p>HCP refers to all persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials, including body substances; contaminated medical supplies, devices, and equipment; contaminated environmental surfaces; or contaminated air.</p>
	<p>N95 Respirator</p>	<p>An N95 respirator is a respiratory protective device designed to achieve a very close facial fit and very efficient filtration of airborne particles.</p>
	<p>Open COVID-19 Unit</p>	<p>A multi-bed location where patients are not located in individual negative pressure rooms.</p>
	<p>Source Control</p>	<p>The use of well-fitting face masks or respirators to cover a person’s mouth and nose to prevent spread of respiratory secretions when they are talking, sneezing, or coughing. They are recommended for everyone in a healthcare facility, even if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19.</p>
<p>References</p>	<p>CDC- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html#Infection-Control</p> <p>CDC - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</p> <p>CDC – https://www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/covid19/moderna/40130.asp</p> <p>NYSDOH - https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/01/nysdoh-hcp-webinar-1.14.21.final_.pdf</p>	

Reviewed and/or Revised

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Previous Versions of this Guidance

Signature	Title	Date
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 1 - February 27, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 2/3 - Revised March 24, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 4 – Revised April 13, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 5 – Revised May 5, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 6 – Revised May 26, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 7 – Revised June 10, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 8 – Revised September 28, 2020
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 9 – Revised January 13, 2021
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 10 – Revised March 12, 2021
Machelle Allen	SVP/CMO	Version 11 – Revised May 14, 2021

