

## Current COVID-19 Procedures 2/20/23

### Standard Precautions:

- **Standard precautions** are the basic practices that we apply to all patient care, regardless of the patient's suspected or confirmed infectious state, and apply to all settings where care is delivered. These practices protect healthcare personnel and prevent healthcare personnel from transmitting infections to other patients or the environment.
- **Standard PPE Precautions during COVID-19**
  - **HIGH Community Transmission AND HIGH Community Level**
    - **Medical Masks:** Medical, hospital supplied masks are required for all colleagues regardless of care setting when on the healthcare campus. Cloth masks are no longer allowed.
    - **Eye Protection:** Googles OR Face shields are required for all patient care activities. Personal eyeglasses or contact lenses are NOT considered eye protection.
    - **Gloves:** Should **ONLY** be worn when touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated items; for touching mucus membranes and nonintact skin.
    - **Gown:** Use during procedures and patient care activities when contact of clothing/exposed skin with blood/body fluids, secretions, or excretions is anticipated.
  - **HIGH Community Transmission AND NOT-HIGH Community Level**
    - **Clinical and Public Settings**
      - **Medical Masks:** Medical, hospital supplied masks are required for all colleagues regardless of care setting when on the healthcare campus. Cloth masks are no longer allowed.
      - **Eye Protection:** Googles OR Face shields are required for all patient care activities. Personal eyeglasses or contact lenses are NOT considered eye protection.
      - **Gloves:** Should **ONLY** be worn when touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated items; for touching mucus membranes and nonintact skin.
      - **Gown:** Use during procedures and patient care activities when contact of clothing/exposed skin with blood/body fluids, secretions, or excretions is anticipated.
    - **Well-Defined Areas (Areas where there is NO reasonable expectation for contact with a patient or member of the public)**
      - **Masking is optional** (unless you are severely immunocompromised, have been exposed to COVID or are recovering from COVID and need to mask between days 6-10)
  - **NOT-HIGH Community Transmission AND NOT-HIGH Community Level**
    - **Medical Masks: OPTIONAL in all settings** unless you are severely immunocompromised, are caring for someone severely immunocompromised,

have been exposed to COVID or are recovering from COVID and need to mask between days 6-10.

- **Gowns, Gloves and Eye protection:** required whenever there is a risk of body fluid exposure.

#### **Transmission-Based Precautions:**

- COVID: COVID Positive patients or PUIs should be placed on Airborne, Droplet and Contact Precautions.
- PPE: N95 or Respirator, Gown, Gloves and Face shield.

#### **Discontinuation of Precautions:**

- COVID patients can be removed from isolation 10 days from symptom onset or positive test, if they have had an improvement in symptoms and are fever-free for at least 48 hours unless they have been severely ill or severely immunocompromised.

#### **Aerosol-Generating Procedures**

- During **HIGH Community Transmission**, all colleagues are required to wear an N95/Respirator and Eye protection when entering the room of a patient having an aerosol-generating procedure and for the time period post-procedure required for air exchanges. **For standard patient rooms the time is 60 minutes. For Airborne Isolation rooms (AIIR) it is 30 minutes.** Procedural areas and Emergency rooms are not required to hold the room before terminally cleaning however proper PPE should continue to be worn.
- Signage must be placed on the patients closed door to prevent possible exposure.

#### **Aerosol Generating Procedures include:**

- CPR
- Sputum Induction
- Open deep oral suctioning/tracheal suctioning
- Intubation/Extubation
- High flow nasal oxygen
- Bipap/CPAP
- Nebulizer Treatments
- Bronchoscopy
- NG Tube Placement
- Manual Ventilation
- Nasopharyngeal/Oral areas-nasotracheal endoscope
- Tracheostomy placement or ongoing care
- Dental procedures involving: Ultrasonic Scalers; high-speed dental handpieces; air/water syringes; air polishing; and air abrasion