

Effective Date: 2/20/23

Definitions

Standard Precautions: Utilize Eye Protection, Gowns and Gloves when there is an anticipation of blood or bodily fluid exposure/splash.

Transmission Based Precautions: Precautions utilized in addition to standard precautions for patients who may be infected or colonized with certain infectious agents for which additional precautions are needed to prevent infection transmission.

Universal Source Control refers to use of facemasks (N95, KN95, surgical, procedural mask) to cover a person's mouth and nose to prevent spread of respiratory secretions when they are breathing, talking, sneezing, or coughing.

Personal protective equipment (PPE): Masks, eye protection, gown, and gloves, used to protect the health care worker and prevent the transmission of infection.

COVID-19 Community Levels to determine the impact of COVID-19 on communities

Transmission Levels (also known as **Community Transmission**) to describe the amount of COVID-19 spread within each county. **Healthcare facilities use Transmission Levels to determine infection control interventions.**

Well-defined areas: a location where there is no reasonable expectation that any patients, visitors, or members of the public would be.

Extended Wear of Source Control: If you are required to wear an N95 masks for **source control**, as outlined in the tables below, we ask that you extend wear your N95 mask to prevent self-contamination by continually donning and doffing of masks. This means colleagues should only take their N95 masks off for breaks/lunch, end of shift, when they are wet, soiled or have lost their seal. Colleagues should **NOT** be saving or storing N95s over multiple shifts. If you are wearing an N95 for **PPE/Transmission based precautions**, your N95 must be changed after leaving the patient's room.

High-Transmission and High-Community Level

Situation	Mask	Eye protection	Gown and Gloves
ED and areas encountering patients with unknown conditions	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Unvaccinated Colleagues (Medical Exemption) OR Severely Immunocompromised	N95	Goggles or Face Shield (If providing patient care)	Standard Precautions
COVID/PUI Patients	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	REQUIRED
Non-COVID Patients	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Aerosol Generating Procedures	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Public Areas	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	N/A	N/A
Well-Defined Areas	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	N/A	N/A

High Transmission and Not-High Community Level

Situation	Mask	Eye protection	Gown and Gloves
ED and areas encountering patients with unknown conditions	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Unvaccinated Colleagues (Medical Exemption) OR Severely Immunocompromised	N95	Goggles or Face Shield (If providing patient care)	Standard Precautions
COVID/PUI Patients	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	REQUIRED
Non-COVID	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Aerosol Generating Procedure	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	Standard Precautions
Public Areas	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	N/A	N/A
Well-Defined Areas	Optional	N/A	N/A

Not-High Transmission and Not-High Community Level

Situation	Mask	Eye protection	Gown and Gloves
ED and areas encountering patients with unknown conditions	Optional	Standard Precautions	Standard Precautions
Unvaccinated Colleagues (Medical Exemption) OR Severely Immunocompromised	N95	Goggles or Face Shield (If providing patient care)	Standard Precautions
COVID/PUI Patients	N95	Goggles or Face Shield	REQUIRED
Non-COVID (Not severely immunocompromised)	Optional	Standard Precautions	Standard Precautions
Non-COVID (Severely immunocompromised)	Medical/Procedural Mask or KN95	Standard Precautions	Standard Precautions
Aerosol Generating Procedure	Optional	Optional	Standard Precautions
Public Areas	Optional	N/A	N/A
Well-Defined Areas	Optional	N/A	N/A

Fit Testing

Colleagues in qualified job codes must be fit tested annually. Departments and positions requiring the N95 masks have been previously identified; the department managers or their designee will continue to coordinate testing and mask ordering and distribution. Your manager will inform you if you need to be tested. Appointments can be made on the [fit test scheduling site](#).

Please refer to the [PPE Guidebook](#) for the appropriate PPE that colleagues and clinicians are expected to wear.