



INFECTION CONTROL POLICY & PROCEDURE

Title: PPE Requirements for Confirmed and Suspected COVID-19 Patients

Number: IC-6001

Effective Date: 04-13-20

Revised Date: 01-31-22

Review Date: (no revisions):

PURPOSE:

To prevent serial transmission of COVID-19 virus and to alleviate confusion regarding what PPE is appropriate for caring for the COVID-19 patient.

POLICY:

To utilize current PPE recommendations from regulatory agencies (listed below as references). Maintain the safety of all patients as well as Health Care Workers directly involved with caring for suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 patients.

PROCEDURE:

Listed below is a 3- tiered approach to appropriate level of PPE needed for the response to both suspect and confirmed COVID-19 patients.

Tier 1 – Suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients without any aerosolizing treatments such as bronchoscopy, nebulizing treatments, Bi-pap, etc. A negative pressure room is not necessary.

PPE REQUIRED: Gloves, gown, goggles or face mask, surgical mask or procedure mask (**Only masks provided by Harbor Regional Health Community Hospital, HRHCH**). When finished with direct patient care, please discard all single use PPE worn in room and WASH HANDS.

Tier II – Suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients with potential for aerosolizing treatments such as nebulizing treatments, Bi-pap, etc. Negative pressure room preferred.

PPE REQUIRED: Gloves, gown, goggles or face mask, N95 mask or an industrial particulate mask with removable filters (**Only masks provided by HRHCH**).

- If using N95 mask; make sure that you sanitize hands before putting on N95 mask and sanitize hands before removing N95 mask.

When finished with direct patient care, please discard all single use PPE with exception of N95 and industrial particulate mask and WASH HANDS.

Tier III - Confirmed COVID-19 patients with Intubation/aerosolizing treatments of any kind. A negative pressure room is mandatory.

PPE: Gloves, gown, N95 mask or an industrial particulate mask with removable filters and face mask or goggles, or PAPR system **(Only masks provided by HRHCH).**

- If using N95 mask, make sure that you sanitize hands before putting on N95 mask and sanitize hands before removing N95 mask.

When finished with direct patient care please discard all single use PPE with exception of N95 mask and industrial particulate mask and WASH HANDS.

Note: Masks, whether Surgical or N95 masks, when worn in patient rooms, are to be masks provided by HRHCH only. This is to prevent in discriminate use of unapproved masks, whether home- made or purchased from a company not approved by our Supply Chain Director and Quality Director.

References:

- Combined recommendations from: CDC, UW Medicine, Washington State Department of Health, and APIC.
- **Discussion with Dr. Bausher, Director Grays Harbor County Department of Health.

Approved By:

Director Employee Health/Infection Control

Date

Chief Nursing Officer

Date