

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## Keeping You Safe



To: All Staff and Professional Staff

From: Dr. Stewart Kennedy, COVID-19 Incident Manager

Date: Thursday, December 17, 2020

RE: **Personally owned or purchased PPE**

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Your health and safety is our priority. The mandatory use of Hospital-provided procedure masks protects you and those around you. **Personally owned or purchased procedure masks** are not permitted for use at work.

You are strongly encouraged to use all forms of Hospital-provided Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). For your health and safety, **use of all personal PPE, including goggles, must follow the guidelines below.**

1. All personally owned or purchased PPE must be **assessed\* by Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) prior to use.** Please call OHS at 684-6212 to book an appointment;
2. Staff must clean the PPE between patients and at the end of shift, following the manufacturer recommendation;
3. Staff must read and follow all instructions for their personal PPE;
4. Staff must ensure proper seal of personal PPE through proper donning and doffing technique;
5. Staff must follow PPE storage instructions during their breaks;
6. Staff must follow instructions for safe PPE transport between work and home;
7. Staff must follow Hospital policy for the proper use of PPE.

\*With the information and resources available, OHS will inspect PPE to determine whether filtering requirements and other guidelines are met. Please note that PPE must protect the patient as well as the wearer. Even though personal PPE has been assessed by OHS, staff accept all risk associated with its use.

Evidence-based decisions and responses are applied to continuously changing circumstances. As such, these procedures may be updated to comply with the best available evidence. You will be informed of any updates.

For more information, please contact your manager.

All Hospital COVID-19 updates and Guidance Documents are available on the iNtranet at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>.