


Guidance Document for COVID-19



Title: PPE Requirements for suspect or confirmed COVID-19 Patients – Addition of N95 Usage	Version #: 2
Approved: COVID-19 Lead Signature: 	Approval Date: December 21, 2021
<i>This document is intended to provide guidance to staff/professional staff during COVID-19</i>	

1. PURPOSE

To clarify expectations during COVID-19, related to *PPE requirements for suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients with the addition of N95 masks.*

2. GUIDELINES (e.g. background, definitions, procedure, etc.)

All staff and professional staff providing direct care/entering room of patients with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 are required to don all PPE for Airborne/Droplet/Contact precautions including a fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirator.

Described below are instructions for performing care or completing duties with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients:

- Suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients will be admitted under Airborne/Droplet/Contact precautions.
- Suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patients require a private room. The use of a negative pressure room is only required if an AGMP is in progress.
- A maximum of two isolation precautions signs will be posted: Airborne and Droplet/Contact (orange, pink, or green depending on the highest level of contact precautions required).
- PPE for Airborne/Droplet/Contact precautions will be worn by all staff at all times while providing direct care/entering the room of patients with suspect or confirmed COVID-19, including a fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirator.
- N95 respirators are single use only.
- N95 respirators will not be reused or packaged for decontamination.
- PPE will be donned **before** entering the room, in the designated donning area. PPE will be doffed **upon exiting** the room in the designated doffing area.
- Hand hygiene will be performed before entering and exiting the room.
- If staff designated to a suspect or confirmed COVID-19 patient or room needs to move to assist a non COVID-19 patient or room, full PPE **must** be changed and hand hygiene performed before entering the room.
- Dedicated equipment should be used whenever possible. If not possible, equipment **must** be cleaned and disinfected after patient use.

3. RELATED POLICIES, PRACTICES AND/OR LEGISLATIONS

N/A

4. REFERENCES

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/updated-ipac-measures-covid-19.pdf?la=en>