1. This document provides current guidance and recommendations for PPE during COVID-19. Each care space is different and recommendations may change as conditions change. Always perform a **Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)** to determine PPE requirements.

2. In the Emergency Department, use fit-tested N95 respirators for continuous masking.

3. **Do not double mask** (in any combination of mask and respirator) as there is an increased risk of self-contamination.

4. Use continuous eye protection regardless of HCW vaccination status.

5. HCWs working behind transparent barriers must follow continuous masking and eye protection directives.

6. Gloves do not replace the need for hand hygiene. Instead of wearing gloves continuously, **perform hand hygiene** frequently.

7. Gloves become contaminated very quickly and are single use. Gloves should be used when handling disinfectants or before contact with body fluids.

8. These are interim recommendations and may change with emerging scientific data and evolving epidemiology.

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### IPC PPE Table for Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Centres during COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCW Type Examples</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Direct Patient Contact?</th>
<th>Within 2 metres of patient or contaminated space?</th>
<th>PPE Required</th>
<th>When to Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCs working 2 metres away from patients and other HCs</td>
<td>HCs working in patient care areas are to follow continuous masking and continuous eye protection. Additional PPE not required. Perform hand hygiene frequently.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-screeners</td>
<td>• Screening questions</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes Continuous Masking Continuous Eye Protection</td>
<td>• Fit-tested N95 respirator</td>
<td>Change N95 respirator and eye protection as a unit if: • one or both is wet/soiled • contaminated (e.g. AGMP exposure, coughed or sneezed on) • before breaks and shift change</td>
<td>• Gloves not recommended • Perform hand hygiene frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-screeners</td>
<td>• Assessment questions/data entry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unit clerks</td>
<td>• Directing patients to sanitize hands/mask</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Registration if behind transparent barrier</td>
<td>• Assisting patients, HCs, visitors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-screeners</td>
<td>• Screening questions</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes Continuous Masking Continuous Eye Protection</td>
<td>• Fit-tested N95 respirator</td>
<td>Change N95 respirator and eye protection as a unit if: • one or both is wet/soiled • contaminated (e.g. AGMP exposure, coughed or sneezed on) • before breaks and shift change</td>
<td>• Gloves not recommended • Perform hand hygiene frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unit clerks</td>
<td>• Assessment questions/data entry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Registration if at open desk</td>
<td>• Directing patients to sanitize hands/mask</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Assisting patients, HCs, visitors</td>
<td>• Assisting patients, HCs, visitors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Original date: March 2020
Revised date: January 5, 2022
ECC Approved: January 5, 2022
### Green Stream Patient

[i.e., patient screens negative for symptoms AND risk factors and is not on COVID-19 Precautions]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCW Type Examples</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Direct patient contact?</th>
<th>Within two (2) metres of patient or contaminated space?</th>
<th>PPE Required</th>
<th>When to change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses and triage personnel</td>
<td>Direct patient care</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Fit-tested N95 respirator</td>
<td>Change N95 respirator and eye protection as a unit if:</td>
<td>Do not wear a procedure/surgical mask over a N95 respirator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse practitioners</td>
<td>Contact with patient environment</td>
<td>(indirect and direct)</td>
<td>Continuous Masking</td>
<td>There may be situations where a health care worker, based upon their Point-of-Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) or their assessment of all known and foreseeable risks and hazards, may choose to wear a medical mask instead of a N95 respirator.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All physicians</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continuous Eye Protection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health (e.g., OT, PT, RT, APL/lab, pharmacy, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Personal Protective Equipment – Frequently Asked Questions (PPE FAQ)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porters, ES, LS, NFS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Eye protection
- Gown and gloves should be worn if PCRA indicates potential blood or body fluid exposure e.g., blood/body fluid splash, AGMP, etc.

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## Pink Stream Patient

[i.e., on COVID-19 Precautions because symptom or risk factor present, confirmed COVID-19, or unable to assess (e.g., trauma)]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCW Type Examples</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Direct patient contact?</th>
<th>Within two (2) metres of patient or contaminated space?</th>
<th>PPE Required</th>
<th>When to change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Nurses and triage personnel  
• Nurse practitioners  
• All physicians  
• Allied Health (e.g. OT, PT, RT, AP/Lab, Pharmacy, etc.)  
• Porters, ES, LS, NFS | • Direct patient care  
• Contact with patient environment | Yes (indirect and direct) | Yes  
Continuous Masking  
Continuous Eye Protection | • Fit-tested N95 respirator  
• Must use N95 respirator if AGMP in progress or anticipated  
• There may be situations where a health care worker, based upon their Point-of-Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) or their assessment of all known and foreseeable risks and hazards, may choose to wear a medical mask instead of a N95 respirator.  
• See Joint Statement for more information.  
• Eye protection  
• Gown  
• Gloves | Change all PPE after each patient encounter | • Do not wear a procedure/surgical mask over a N95 respirator.  
• Follow Intra-Facility Patient Transport Checklist (Form 21628) when leaving ED/UCC with patient |

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Revised date: January 5, 2022
ECC Approved: January 5, 2022

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