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. Continuous masking: Use fit-tested N95 respirator.
   - There may be situations where a healthcare 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 an N95 respirator. See Joint Statement for more information.
   - Both options are considered safe practice for continuous masking.
   - Use appropriate N95 respirator model/size if fit testing is current (i.e., within the last 2 years) and review the AHS General Instructions for Putting On and Taking Off an N95 Respirator (Mask).
   - If fit testing is NOT current, don a well-fitting seal-checked procedure/surgical mask. A seal check alone is not adequate for an N95 respirator.
   - Use a well-fitting procedure/surgical mask if fit-tested N95 respirator not available.
   - Do not double mask (in any combination of mask and respirator) as there is an increased risk of self-contamination.

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

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

5. Perform hand hygiene frequently. Do not wear gloves continuously.
   - Gloves do not replace the need for hand hygiene.
   - Gloves cannot be cleaned and become contaminated very quickly.
   - Gloves should be used when handling disinfectants or before contact with body fluids.

6. These are interim recommendations and may change with emerging scientific data and evolving epidemiology.
<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>HCWs working 2 metres away from patients and other HCWs</td>
<td>HCWs working in patient care areas are to follow <a href="#">continuous masking and continuous eye protection</a>. Additional PPE not required. Perform hand hygiene frequently.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fit-tested N95 respirator</td>
<td>Change N95 respirator or well-fitting procedure/surgical mask and eye protection as a unit if:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-screeners</td>
<td>• Screening questions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• There may be situations where a healthcare worker, based upon their <a href="#">Point-of-Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)</a> or their assessment of all known and foreseeable risks and hazards, may choose to wear a medical mask instead of an N95 respirator.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Unit clerks</td>
<td>• Assessment questions/data entry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>o See <a href="#">Joint Statement</a> for more information.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Registration if behind transparent barrier</td>
<td>• Directing patients to sanitize hands/mask</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Continuous Masking Continuous Eye Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Assisting patients, HCWs, visitors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See <a href="#">Personal Protective Equipment – Frequently Asked Questions (PPE FAQ)</a></td>
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<td>• Feed the N95 respirator or well-fitting procedure/surgical mask and eye protection as a unit if:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-screeners</td>
<td>Yes (indirect contact)</td>
<td>Yes (indirect contact)</td>
<td>Continuous Masking Continuous Eye Protection</td>
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<td>• Registration if at open desk</td>
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<td>• one or both is wet/soiled;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• contaminated (e.g., AGMP exposure, coughed or sneezed on);</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• before breaks and shift change.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Re-usable eye protection must be cleaned and disinfected. Single-use eye protection must be discarded.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information contact ipcsurvstdadmin@ahs.ca
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# IPC PPE Table for Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Centres during COVID-19

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

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| • Nurses and triage personnel  
• Nurse practitioners  
• All physicians  
• Allied Health (e.g., OT, PT, RT, APL/lab, pharmacy, etc.)  
• Porters, ES, LS, NFS | • Direct patient care  
• Contact with patient environment | Yes (indirect and direct) | Yes Continuous Eye Protection See Personal Protective Equipment – Frequently Asked Questions (PPE FAQ) | • Fit-tested N95 respirator  
  ○ There may be situations where a healthcare 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 an N95 respirator.  
  ○ See Joint Statement for more information.  
• 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. | Change N95 respirator or well-fitting procedure/surgical mask 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.  
Re-usable eye protection must be cleaned and disinfected. Single-use eye protection must be discarded.  
Gown and gloves (if used) to be doffed after each patient encounter. | • Perform hand hygiene frequently.  
• Do not wear a procedure/surgical mask over an N95 respirator.  
• Gloves not recommended.  
• Follow Intra-Facility Patient Transport Checklist (Form 21628) when leaving ED/UCC with patient.
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  • Nurse practitioners  
  • All physicians  
  • Allied Health (e.g., OT, PT, RT, APL/Lab, Pharmacy, etc.)  
  • Porters, ES, LS, NFS | • Direct patient care  
  • Contact with patient environment | Yes  
  (indirect and direct) | Yes  
  Continuous Masking  
  Continuous Eye Protection  
  See Personal Protective Equipment – Frequently Asked Questions (PPE FAQ) | • Fit-tested N95 respirator  
  o Must use N95 respirator if AGMP in progress or anticipated.  
  o There may be situations where a healthcare 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 an N95 respirator.  
  o See Joint Statement for more information.  
  • Eye protection  
  • Gown  
  • Gloves | Change ALL PPE after each patient encounter.  
  Re-usable eye protection must be cleaned and disinfected.  
  Single-use eye protection must be discarded. | • Perform hand hygiene frequently.  
  • Do not wear a procedure/surgical mask over an N95 respirator.  
  • Follow Intra-Facility Patient Transport Checklist (Form 21628) when leaving ED/UCC with patient. |

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)]