

Provincial Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Safety Coach Responsibilities

Original date: November 2020

Revised date: February 2021

Goals

Provincial Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Safety Coaches will help reduce inappropriate and incorrect PPE use by supporting and mentoring frontline employees and physicians when selecting and using PPE. This will improve confidence in selecting and using PPE and ensuring appropriate processes for donning and doffing are always followed. This role will be carried out in accordance with the [AHS CARES values](#).

Selection

- Select from staff throughout the facility, providing support for different program areas; although casual staff are not excluded, regular staff are preferred to ensure sustainability. The intent is to have a coach available and accessible on each shift
- Identify staff interested in the role of PPE Safety Coach; consider a nomination process
- Select those with experience who demonstrate strong communication, inter-professional team effectiveness, collaboration, leadership, and coaching skills
- Complete the prerequisite PPE education with Infection Prevention and Control, competency check, and any other required training for the position; up to two hours of total training time

Responsibilities

- Providing support and coaching for staff and physicians when donning/doffing of contact and droplet PPE, effective hand hygiene, and continuous masking
- Modeling adherence to best practices for donning/doffing of contact/droplet PPE, hand hygiene and continuous masking
- Practicing providing just-in-time constructive feedback to staff and physicians before, during and after direct patient care encounters to reinforce safe behaviors
- Identifying gaps in knowledge or abilities; promote a learning environment, this includes promoting the use of MySafetyNet or RLS submissions, as applicable
- Being accessible when staff request coaching or observing (subject to operational parameters)
- Observing, educating, and advising unit staff, support staff, physicians, patients, and essential visitors on appropriate PPE selection and use, with a friendly, informal, and helpful approach
- Converting best practices into work habits for staff to minimize the risk of provider/patient harm



Provincial Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Safety Coach Program

For more information, go to
ahs.ca/ppesafetycoach

© 2021, Alberta Health Services,
Infection Prevention & Control





This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Non-commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/). To view a copy of this licence, see <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>. You are free to copy, distribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, as long as you attribute the work to Alberta Health Services and abide by the other licence terms. If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same, similar, or compatible licence. The licence does not apply to AHS trademarks, logos or content for which Alberta Health Services is not the copyright owner.

Disclaimer: This material is intended for general information only and is provided on an "as is", "where is" basis. Although reasonable efforts were made to confirm the accuracy of the information, Alberta Health Services does not make any representation or warranty, express, implied or statutory, as to the accuracy, reliability, completeness, applicability or fitness for a particular purpose of such information. This material is not a substitute for the advice of a qualified health professional. Alberta Health Services expressly disclaims all liability for the use of these materials, and for any claims, actions, demands or suits arising from such use.