To provide guidance to AHS/Covenant Health MDR staff on the proper handling and transportation of contaminated N95 respirators through acute care facility.

To provide guidance to AHS/Covenant Health MDR staff on the appropriate PPE* required while handling and transporting contaminated N95 respirators through acute care facility.

To provide guidance to AHS/Covenant Health MDR staff on the appropriate method of cleaning exterior surfaces of the transportation bucket.

NOTE: EMERGENT reprocessing of single use devices or PPE will only occur if supplies are depleted and urgently needed by frontline staff to provide safe patient care.

This procedure applies to all AHS/Covenant Health physicians and healthcare workers, employees, members of the medical, dental, podiatry, and midwifery staffs, students, volunteers, and other persons acting on behalf of AHS.

Alberta Health Services (AHS)/Covenant Health regional policy for Sterilization and High-Level Disinfection of Medical Devices and Equipment sets high standards for the proper Cleaning, Disinfection, and Sterilization of reusable equipment and devices used in the provision of patient/client care. Departments responsible for Cleaning, Disinfection, or Sterilization shall establish procedures and a quality control program, ensure that staff are adequately trained and supervised, and ensure that equipment and devices used for Cleaning, Disinfection, and Sterilization are appropriately maintained.

Guidelines/Procedure:

To ensure transport N95 Respirator Collection bucket and lids are disinfected before entering MDR dedicated area.

1. MDR staff shall perform hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE*.
2. Transportation N95 Respirator Collection bucket will not be opened
3. Using a disinfectant wipe, MDR staff will wipe exterior of N95 Respirator Collection bucket completely, including the outside bottom of N95 Respirator Collection bucket and exterior of lid.
4. The disinfected transportation N95 Respirator Collection bucket/lid will be placed on a clean cart.
5. When clean cart is full of disinfected N95 Respirator Collection bucket, MDR staff will doff gloves and perform hand hygiene.
6. MDR staff will then transport disinfected N95 Respirator Collection bucket/lid to dedicated area within MDR.
7. Carts used in Unit transportation will be reprocessed as per facility procedure.

*Appropriate PPE: gown mask, face shield/eye protection and gloves