AHS PPE Distribution to Select Community Providers

Some select community providers have the option to procure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and some cleaning supplies from Alberta Health Services (AHS) during the COVID-19 pandemic through a cost-recovery model.

This document outlines a NEW ordering process for select community providers, defined as specialist and primary care physicians, PCNs, midwives and pharmacists who compound medications.

NEW: physician PCN members may now direct order PPE and supplies through AHS and are no longer required to order through a PCN hub.

PCN physician members should contact their PCN to determine if the PCN offers an ordering hub option or if physicians should order directly from AHS.

Key messages:

- AHS has committed to supplying PPE on a cost recovery basis to community providers until March 31, 2022.
- Community providers who procure PPE through AHS will receive an invoice for orders placed starting May 26, 2020.
- View the current AHS PPE price list. Pricing is subject to change at any time based on global supply chains.
- AHS prices for PPE reflect the cost of the product as well as internal distribution, administration and processing. AHS does not make a profit on PPE distribution.
- Please view this guidance on masking recommendations by the CPSA.
- AHS continues to source supplies from various vendors, so you may receive different products depending on availability. However, all products will meet safety requirements. See Appendix 1 for more information on specifications for PPE and cleaning items as well as instructions for how to use products.
- AHS is just one option for community physicians to order PPE. You can source from any supplier of your choice.

Ordering and billing information

- NEW: physician PCN members may now direct order supplies through AHS and are no longer required to order through a PCN hub.
- All direct orders will be charged a flat rate shipping fee of $30 per order.
There is no minimum or maximum order; however, AHS reserves the right to limit amounts distributed depending on supply availability. You will only be billed for supplies you receive.

Requests to supply certain brands of supplies will not be accommodated.

Orders should be placed approximately bi-weekly to minimize administrative time.

Billing will be after each order and due upon receipt of AHS invoices.

Billing will be based on the posted rate on the date the order was received.

Failure to pay invoices on time will result in stoppage of future shipments and the account will be sent for collections.

Returns will only be accepted on a case by case basis.

Instructions

Please visit www.ahs.ca/covidPHC before placing every order to ensure you are using the most up-to-date order form, which includes prices.

To order, submit the order form to CPSMOperations.EOC@ahs.ca.

Supplies will be distributed directly to community physicians.

AHS will invoice community physicians directly.

For more information:

To request PPE for your clinic: See instructions above

For questions: phc@ahs.ca

Information on COVID-19 for community physicians: www.ahs.ca/covidphc

PPE information and resources: www.ahs.ca/covidPPE
Appendix 1: Minimum Specifications and Instructions for PPE and Cleaning Products

The table below lists the safety requirements for PPE and cleaning products you may receive. Refer to the [price list](#) and [order form](#) for product details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PPE or Cleaning Item</th>
<th>What to expect</th>
<th>How to use/ additional supplies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disposable gowns</td>
<td>• Gowns will have closure at the neck and waist, cover majority of back, extend below the knees and offer fluid resistance</td>
<td>Donning and doffing guidance, Contact droplet precautions, Interim IPC Recommendations for COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedure masks</td>
<td>• May have ear loop or surgical ties • May be indicated as procedural or surgical • May be various colors, most often blue or white • Brands and styles may vary based on availability</td>
<td>Use the AGMP look-up tool to determine which procedures are considered to be aerosol-generating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N95 respirators</td>
<td>• Proof of current fit testing and description of aerosol-generating medical procedure (AGMP) is required • AHS cannot guarantee availability of N95 respirator brands to match community fit testing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Face shields</td>
<td>• May have a foam headrest with elastic securement • May have a hard plastic frame with foam padding and elastic securement • Most will come with plastic shield attached, some may require you to attach to the frame • Brands and styles may vary based on availability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloves</td>
<td>• Available gloves meet a minimum requirement for medical grade nitrile gloves • Latex free are not available • Sizes small, medium and large are available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hand sanitizer</td>
<td>• Color, brand and styles may vary based on availability</td>
<td>Use as directed</td>
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</table>
| Clean               | • Disinfectant wipes such as CAVI wipes are not available due to limited supplies  
  • A ready-to-use disinfectant, Oxivir®, and dry wipes will be automatically substituted for any disinfectant requests  
  • The product is a virucidal effective against COVID-19 | How to use Oxivir® disinfectant, which is effective against COVID-19:  
  • It is ready-to-use and does not require mixing or dilution  
  • The container is disposable. Discard when empty  
  • Use according to manufacturer’s instructions  
  • Saturate the wipe, squeeze out excess and apply to the hard surface – either dispense the liquid onto the surface or directly onto the wipe  
  • Can be used both as a cleaner and disinfectant. Start with clean areas first and then progress to dirty  
  • To achieve low level disinfection, Oxivir® must remain wet for one minute contact time on a clean surface. **Clean** means the absence of visible dust, soil, debris, blood or other potentially infectious material. **Contact time** means the length of time, specified by the manufacturer (i.e., disinfectant label), a disinfectant must remain wet on a surface to be effective (i.e., achieve disinfection).  
  • Can be used on non-critical equipment if allowed by the equipment manufacturer (do not use on critical or semi-critical equipment)  
  • Dispose of wipe after use, e.g., when: |
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<td></td>
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<td>o Visibly soiled</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>o No longer wet enough to moisten surfaces</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>o Moving from a dirty area to a clean area</td>
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</tbody>
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