

COVID-19 SHGR PPE Coach Guidelines, 06.29.2020 1000

Spectrum Health contact: Jessica Pratt

Background:

In preparation for COVID-19, an inpatient role called a Hot Zone Boss was developed to support health care providers in practices related to infection prevention. As we work toward sustainability, we will transition the role of Hot Zone Boss to **PPE Coach**.

What's Changing:

PPE Coaches will serve to educate team members in the moment on proper techniques in order to develop a culture of self-accountability with donning and doffing procedures by.

- After training in PPE donning and doffing techniques, team members may enter and exit COVID-19 rooms independently.
- PPE coaches will also assist approved visitors with donning and doffing techniques.
- Room signs and sign placement will be standardized across the organization to ensure consistency, and to support our clinicians in PPE safety
- In SHGR Hospitals, PPE coaches will be available 24/7 in COVID care areas to answer questions, facilitate problem solving and monitor for safe practices ensuring all team members remain safe while caring for COVID patient populations.
- PPE coaches can also be reached by phone. Phone numbers will be available at COVID unit nurse's stations or by calling COVID units directly.

How can I get PPE training?

PPE coaches will be able to provide you in the moment donning and doffing training if you are unfamiliar with the appropriate steps. In addition, donning and doffing step by step videos are available on InSite.

Staffing and Scheduling:

Effective July 1st, 2020 teams are encouraged to use the following guidelines when determining PPE coach needs:

- **Non-ICU Primary COVID Units (with ≥ 3 COVID +/-PUI patients) including Adult, Woman's Health and HDVCH:**
 - 1-3 PPE coaches depending on patient volumes
- **ICU Primary COVID Units (with ≥ 2 COVID +/-PUI patients) & SHGR Adult EDs:**
 - 1-4 PPE coaches depending on patient/ visitor volumes

- **Other (i.e. Non-ICU COVID Units with <3 COVID+/PUIs; ICU COVID Units with <2 COVID +/PUI patients; Non-COVID Units with Symptomatic Patients Awaiting Test Results; Procedural Areas, etc...):**
 - If applicable, contact COVID units within your facility to request presence of PPE coach for isolation initiation period and initial coaching.
 - Review online resources as needed
 - Provided peer to peer support
 - Consider transfer to primary COVID unit, if possible.

PPE coaches will be allocated following practices within each care area, and Hospital Supervisors may facilitate in some areas. Each care area that meets criteria to use a PPE coach is encouraged to identify a process to assign team member(s) to this role. **Registered nurses or nurse technicians with strong interpersonal and leadership skills with high degree of PPE knowledge and comfort are recommended.**

PPE reference materials:

Educational training for PPE donning and doffing techniques and other useful COVID resources are located on the ["Clinical Resources" section of the COVID InSite page](#). All team members interacting with COVID related patient populations are encouraged to review available references. Individuals new to the care of COVID patients are encouraged to request 1:1 assistance during initial patient visits so donning and doffing procedures can be monitored in addition to reviewing COVID InSite resources.

Other important information:

While nursing teams in COVID care areas are developing strategies to support the clinical needs of COVID patients (i.e. individuals to retrieve supplies; room supply stocking; PPE disinfection, isolation cart stocking), PPE coaches may also assist in these tasks as time permits.

Room Signage

All COVID rooms will have consistent signage on the outside of the room to guide team members. This includes the severe respiratory precautions sign, a sign indicating the need for a N-95 mask (if appropriate) and a sign to assist team members in donning. A sign to guide team members in doffing will be located inside the room.

