
COVID-19 PPE Update: Procedural Interventions

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All pre-procedural patients are currently being clinically screened for symptoms of COVID-19 by a questionnaire. It is possible that asymptomatic infected or pre-symptomatic infected patients may present for procedure. Since it possible for pre-symptomatic individuals to shed COVID-19, based on updated guidelines from professional subspecialty societies, the following recommendations have been made for patients without a recent (within prior 5 days / 120 hours) negative COVID-19 test.

For asymptomatic patients undergoing high-risk procedures (scenario 2), all team members don N-95 respirator with face shield/goggles **or** PAPR with surgical mask, plus gown and gloves for the entire duration of the case. In these cases, N-95 respirators, face shields or PAPR may be re-used and stored in accordance with Spectrum Health PPE [extended use policies](#).

If pre-procedure COVID-19 testing is available within 5 days (120 hours) of the planned procedure, and results negative then: nursing staff, tech, and assistants use standard PPE. If patient has tested negative, then there would no longer be a need for leaving rooms unoccupied after procedure has been completed. *As of 5/24/21, fully vaccinated patients undergoing lower endoscopy procedures do not require pre-procedure testing. These patients must be 14 days past their second dose of vaccine (or first dose if received Johnson & Johnson), and doses must be viewable in MCIR.

Following a high-risk procedure with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 or untested patient, the following procedure room downtimes should be used for proper airflow exchange: IR procedure rooms 15-minutes, bronchoscopy rooms 25-minutes, Upper GI procedure rooms 45-minutes, and TEE procedure room 45-min. Properly protected staff may remain in room during downtime, but new patients should not be brought in until downtime is complete.

High-Risk Procedures:

- Transesophageal echocardiograms (TEE)
- EGD
- Interventional radiology procedures that been deemed aerosol generating procedures.
- Bronchoscopy
- Gastrointestinal (upper and lower)
- Oral surgery
- ENT procedures involving sinus or oropharyngeal regions
- Lower Endoscopy *As of 5/24/21, fully vaccinated patients do not require pre-procedure testing for lower endoscopy procedures.

Procedures			
Scenario	Performing provider PPE	Nurse, tech, assistant PPE	Notes
1 - COVID-19 PUI/Confirmed for ANY procedure (*consider delay)	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	Minimize number of staff present. PPE to be worn by all members throughout the entire procedure.
2 - Asymptomatic patient for HIGH RISK procedure. COVID-19 testing not available	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	Minimize number of staff present. PPE to be worn by all members throughout the entire procedure.
3 - Asymptomatic patient for HIGH RISK procedure. Negative COVID-19 test in past 5 days (120 hours)	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	N95 with face shield/goggles or PAPR with surgical mask, gown, and gloves	
4 - Asymptomatic patient for LOW RISK procedure. Negative COVID testing or no pre-procedure testing. Fully vaccinated patients for Lower Endoscopy procedures.	Standard PPE	Standard PPE	

References:

- www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/environmental/appendix/air.html
- https://www.asecho.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COPE_COVID_Supplement_FINAL.pdf,
- <https://www.gastro.org/news/aga-issues-formal-recommendations-for-ppe-during-gastrointestinal-procedures>
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https://aabronchology.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AABIP-Statement-on-Bronchoscopy-COVID_3-12-2020-Statement-plus-3-19-2020-updates-V3.pdf
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