COVID-19 Permissive use of N95 on COVID-19 Units 5.5.2020 1230
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Due to social distancing measures in the state of Michigan, the epidemiological curve has been flattened. While COVID-19 infected patients continue to be cared for in Spectrum Health Hospitals, the models predicting COVID-19 peaks show a significant decrease in overall COVID-19 hospitalizations. **Team members caring for patients on COVID-19 Units:**

- **We are now able to offer team members on dedicated severe respiratory isolation units the option of using either a standard isolation mask or N95 respirator mask, along with the recommended PPE for Severe Respiratory precautions (face shield, gowns, and gloves) for routine patient care for COVID-19 positive patients or PUIs.**
- Either choice (isolation mask or N95 respirator) is fully protective for routine care of patients with COVID-19.
- **N95 respirator remains mandatory for aerosol generating procedures (AGPs).**
- **Fit Testing is available for employees through Employee Health. If you have not been fit tested for a N95 please contact Employee Health prior to use:** healthassessments@spectrumhealth.org
- To preserve our N95 supply, team members should reuse and extended use whenever possible and appropriate and use the N95 disinfection process.
- **Spectrum Health isolation PPE policies are unchanged as they are consistent with the current CDC and WHO recommendations and with the known transmission of COVID-19.**

Spectrum Health relies upon evidence-based guidelines from the: CDC, WHO, SHEA, and Joint Commission guidelines for the development of isolation procedures for COVID-19 positive patients and patients under investigation (PUI).

For more information on reuse and extended use, please refer to the PPE Guidelines and PPE Reuse and Extended Use Guidelines.