

PPE Algorithm in Inpatient Settings

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A COVID-19 COMPATIBLE ILLNESS IS DEFINED AS:

1. Fever with upper or lower respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, congestion)
2. Fever without an identified cause
3. If afebrile, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat
4. COMPLETE loss of taste or smell

See "Testing Guidance" document for further guidance

All inpatients should be tested for COVID-19 at the time of admission

ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS FOR INPATIENTS WHILE AWAITING COVID-19 TESTING**

APPROPRIATE HCW PPE:

Eye protection†

Standard Facemask

***N95/PAPR (covered with standard facemask) if anticipating need for High-risk aerosol generating procedures**

Gown

Gloves

**irrespective of RVP results

POSITIVE/UNKNOWN COVID-19 PCR

APPROPRIATE HCW PPE (SAME AS ABOVE):

Eye protection†

Standard Facemask

***N95/PAPR (covered with standard facemask) if anticipating need for High-risk aerosol generating procedures**

Gown

Gloves

NEGATIVE COVID-19 PCR

APPROPRIATE HCW PPE

Eye protection †

Standard Facemask

Add Gown and Gloves as indicated by other isolation precautions

† Eye protection = goggles or face shield.
If wearing an N95, a face shield is preferred.

***High-risk aerosol generating procedure:** open airway deep or tracheal suctioning (below vocal cords), manual ventilation before intubation, tracheal intubation or extubation, mechanical ventilation (ED/Inpatient unit), LMA, non-invasive ventilation (BiPAP, CPAP, HFNC), high-frequency oscillator, tracheostomy placement/patient with tracheostomy, CPR, bronchoscopy, sputum induction/cough assist, nebulizer therapy, Cool Mist

Low-risk aerosol generating procedure: NP/ OP collection, MDIs, nasal cannula, insertion of NG/OG/ND/NJ tube, closed or nasal/oropharyngeal suctioning, nitrous oxide administration, non-rebreather mask, barium/contrast enema

PATIENT PLACEMENT:

Prioritized:

- Airborne Infection Isolation (All) room / Negative airflow room or a HEPA-filtered room if COVID-19 is clinically suspected/confirmed AND anticipating need for high-risk aerosol generating procedures*

Preferred, if available:

- Airborne Infection Isolation (All) room / Negative airflow room or a HEPA-filtered room if COVID-19 is clinically suspected/confirmed but NOT anticipating need for high-risk aerosol generating procedures*

Acceptable:

- PRIVATE ROOM with door CLOSED

Airborne Infection Isolation (All) room locations listed in Bug Book which can be located in Epic weblinks and Resource Directory under "B"