



CONTINUOUS*and EXTENDED USE* PPE GUIDELINES when caring for Residents suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in Continuing Care

This document provides recommendations for Continuous face mask¹ use and Extended use of face masks¹ and eye protection².

***Continuous face mask use:** all healthcare workers who come into contact with residents during the course of their shift must wear a face mask at all times.

***Extended use of face masks and eye protection:** is the practice of wearing the same face mask and eye protection for repeated interactions with multiple residents for the maximum of one complete shift.

Location	Staff Type Examples	Activity	PPE Required	Comments
Resident room	Direct Care Staff (RNs, LPNs, CCAs Physicians, etc.,)	Providing care to resident (no Aerosol-generating medical procedures [AGMP] being performed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face Mask Eye Protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at the end of shift Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident encounter
		Providing care to resident (AGMP being performed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> once or short term) AGMP list/risk algorithm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 respirator (fit-tested, seal checked) Eye Protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change N95 respirator once AGMP is complete and settle/clearance time achieved. Unless N95 is required for further AGMP, switch to face mask and change mask as described above Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at end of shift Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident encounter Essential staff only during AGMP
		Providing care to resident (AGMPs being performed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continuously or intermittently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 respirator (fit-tested, seal checked) Eye Protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change N95 respirator IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at the end of shift Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident encounter Essential staff only



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	Environmental service workers	<p>Cleaning resident environment</p> <p><u>Do not enter IF Droplet/Contact Plus AND Airborne Precaution Signage is posted- wait for Aerosolize Settle Time</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask • Eye Protection • Gown • Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at the end of shift • Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident environment encounter
Resident room	Other Staff (e.g., Therapists, Lab, Social Work, Maintenance, etc.)	Entering resident room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask • Eye Protection • Gown • Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection remove/disinfect between each resident encounter • Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident encounter
Resident room	Visitors (compassionate reasons only)	Entering resident room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask (if available) • Gown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene frequently
Resident transfer out of facility (medically necessary treatment only)	<p>Transporter(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify EMS and receiving facility of need for Droplet/Contact Plus Precautions 	<p>Assisting with transport of resident</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use predetermined route to minimize potential exposures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask • Eye Protection • Gown • Gloves <p>Have resident wear a mask if able to tolerate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at the end of shift • Gown and gloves must be changed between each resident encounter • Minimize the number of people involved in transport
Other areas on resident care units	All other staff	Performing work duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask • Additional PPE as per point of care risk assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Perform hand hygiene frequently



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Reception, Staff and/or Visitor screening areas	Security personnel, registration staff, staff and/or visitor screeners, etc.	Staff providing daily screening of staff and/or visitors (No partition of 2 metre distancing in place e.g. tympanic temp. takers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask • Eye Protection • Gown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection remove/disinfect before a scheduled break or at the end of shift • Change gown when wet or soiled and before breaks and at end of shift • Gloves not recommended • Perform hand hygiene frequently
	Security personnel, registration staff, staff and/or visitor screeners, etc.	Staff providing daily screening of staff and/or visitors (Partition of 2 metre distancing in place e.g. tympanic temp. takers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Gloves not recommended • Perform hand hygiene frequently
Facility - General	Other Staff not listed in this table	Potential for resident contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask • Additional PPE as per point of care risk assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change mask IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled or when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Perform hand hygiene frequently
		No potential for resident contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No PPE required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene frequently • Note: comment on non-medical masks³



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¹**Face mask** defined as a procedure or surgical mask

- Staff must take care not to touch their face mask. If they touch or adjust their face mask they must immediately perform hand hygiene
- Staff should leave the resident care environment if they need to remove the face mask

²**Eye protection** defined as goggles or face shield (may be disposable or reusable devices)

- Eye protection should be removed and reprocessed if it becomes visibly soiled or difficult to see through
- Eye protection should be discarded if damaged (e.g., face shield can no longer fasten securely to the provider, if visibility is obscured and reprocessing does not restore visibility)
- Staff should take care not to touch their eye protection. If they touch or adjust their eye protection they must immediately perform hand hygiene
- Staff should leave the resident care environment if they need to remove their eye protection

³**Non-medical masks:** The use of personal non-medical masks (e.g. cloth) has not been approved at this time, but is currently being reviewed and further direction will be forthcoming.

References:

Public Health Ontario: Updated IPAC Recommendations for PPE Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19

WHO: Rational use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

Vancouver Coastal Health: PPE Recommendations – Community

Shared Health Manitoba: Provincial Requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

WHO: Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19 Interim Guidance Apr 6, 2020