

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

Colleague Update



March 17, 2020

PPE Conservation

We understand that there is a great deal of concern surrounding the current COVID-19 pandemic. Rest assured, there are multiple teams working tirelessly to make sure we are providing everything that is needed to allow staff to provide safe care to our patients.

Proper use of PPE for respiratory droplets, when/if we do have a suspected or confirmed case, helps ensure that you are not exposed. In order to provide what is needed to care for patients to the best of our abilities, **the following MUST be our current practice:**

- PPE (any type of mask, gown, gloves, eye protection) is only to be worn:
 - ***For care of patients on isolation***
 - ***Staff unvaccinated for Influenza per Department of Health law***
- PPE is not to be worn for any other purpose than when advised by clinical protocol. (e.g. surgery or wearing gloves for Foley insertion etc.).
- Supply chain will deliver PPE as available to clinical locations – this is their standard process
 - Please do not call looking for supply. Our supply chain colleagues are working very hard to get additional supply to provide to clinical areas, and are being frequently interrupted in this process from multiple phone calls.

We are facing a potential shortage of PPE. Miss-use or misappropriation of these supplies will negatively impact the access of supplies needed to care for patients on isolation.

We are all professional health care providers who are trained and experienced to handle this challenge in a way that keeps everyone safe while delivering a *Higher Level of Care*. Professional principles and practice are expected from all.

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