MedStar Health

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COVID-19

COVID Preoperative Testing and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

High-risk AGP Surgical Procedures*

Any procedure involving the:

- Nasal/pharyngeal/laryngeal structures
- Upper aerodigestive tract (above the diaphragm)
- Airway or lung structures

Asymptomatic COVID-negative patients NOT undergoing high-risk AGP surgical procedure:

- Each person in the room during the procedure should use a standard surgical mask and surgical PPE according to OR role
- During intubation and extubation:
  - Only essential staff should be in the room.
  - If required to remain in the room, non-proceduralists should remain > 6 feet away from the patient.
  - The remaining team can safely return to the room immediately once the intubation is complete.

Asymptomatic COVID-negative patients undergoing high-risk AGP surgical procedure
-or- COVID-positive patients or PUIs undergoing any surgical procedure:

- Consistent with extended use protocols, one (1) N95 respirator per day will be allocated to each provider performing a high-risk AGP procedure. The N95 should be covered (clean procedure/surgical mask, full-face shield, or surgical mask with face shield) during patient care. Seal check should be performed every time the respirator is donned, as per protocol.
- During intubation and extubation, all associates can remain in the room using N95s.
- Limit the number of people participating in procedure to essential staff and minimize associate substitution.
- Each person in the room during the procedure should wear standard surgical attire according to their role within the OR and an N95 respirator.

All patients undergoing time-critical emergency surgeries:

A rapid COVID19 swab should be sent, if feasible. If the results have not returned before the time of induction, the case is treated as follows:

- If the patient meets PUI criteria or is undergoing a high-risk AGP procedure:
  - Use N95 and standard surgical attire according to OR role.
- If NOT PUI and NOT High-Risk AGP Procedure: N95 is not necessary. Use surgical mask and standard surgical attire according to OR role.

**During intubation/extubation for any surgical procedure, the proceduralist should don an N95, eye protection, gown, gloves. The N95 should be covered and reused as per protocol.*