

# Emergency Response Services

# COVID-19 Definitions

**Green Zone - COVID-19 Non-Suspect patients**, residents or clients are those who do not have known symptoms or exposure history and/or those deemed “recovered” by Infection Prevention and Control (if admitted).

**Orange Zone - COVID-19 Suspect patients**, residents or clients are those who, based on clinical symptoms or exposure history, is suspected for possible COVID-19 infection, regardless of vaccination status.

**Red Zone - COVID-19 Positive patients**, residents or clients are those who have been tested and have a positive test result and who have not been deemed recovered by Infection Prevention and Control (if admitted).

# PPE – Emergency Response Services – Administrative / Dispatch

Areas	Activity	Type of PPE	Specific Instructions
<p>ERS Administrative Areas (Stations, Offices, Air Base)</p>	<p>Administrative tasks that do not involve contact with patients or public</p>	<p>Non-medical mask.</p>	<p>Extend use of <b>same mask for full shift</b>.</p> <p><b>Change mask IF</b> it becomes wet, damaged, or soiled.</p> <p>Perform hand hygiene upon each entry to administrative areas, and before and after meal breaks. Follow Routine Practices and maintain all other IP&amp;C protocols in Administrative areas.</p>
<p>Dispatch Centres</p>	<p>911 and Inter-facility call taking, dispatching and resource coordination</p>	<p>Non-medical mask.</p> <p>Physical distancing encouraged</p>	<p>Practices must be consistent with Safe Work Procedures for Donning/Doffing of Reusable Face Masks During COVID-19 Pandemic.</p> <p><b>Change mask IF</b> it becomes wet, damaged, or soiled</p> <p>Perform hand hygiene upon each entry to Dispatch Centres, and before and after meal breaks. Follow Routine Practices and maintain all other IP&amp;C protocols in Dispatch Centres.</p>

# PPE – Emergency Response Services – Ambulance or Ground Transport

Areas	Activity	Type of PPE	Specific Instructions
Ambulance or Ground Transport	Providing direct care to patients	<p>Respirator N95 or equivalent, or reusable respirator if available</p> <p>*Procedure Mask (see specific instructions as per Care Maps/Protocols)</p> <p>Gloves</p> <p>Eye protection (see specific instructions)</p> <p>Gowns (see specific instructions)</p> <p>Wherever possible, retain lenses and/or frames and disinfect eye protection at the end of the shift.</p>	<p>Extended use of same respirator/reusable respirator AND eye protection without removal for repeated interactions with multiple patients</p> <p>Change <b>respirator</b> IF it becomes wet, damaged, soiled, OR you are returning to an Administrative area</p> <p>*Specific instructions re: procedure mask per Care Maps/Protocols</p> <p>Clean <b>eye protection</b> according to protocols.</p> <p><b>Gowns</b> are to be used as per Routine Practices and Additional Precautions (e.g., MRSA, scabies, blood or body fluid contact or excessive soiling) AND <b>COVID-19 Positive</b> AND <b>Suspect</b> patients (patients with ILI symptoms) and patients with respiratory symptoms</p> <p><b>Gloves</b> must be changed between each patient encounter.</p> <p>Hand Hygiene before/after donning/doffing gloves or contact with patient or patient environment without gloves.</p>
	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	<p>Respirator N95 or equivalent, or reusable respirator if available</p> <p><b>As per Shared Health Recommendations for intubation and other Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures</b></p>	<p>Practices must be consistent with Safe Work Procedures for Extended PPE when performing AGMPs</p> <p>Note: N95 respirator and half-mask reusable respirator offer equivalent protection</p> <p>Hand Hygiene before/after donning/doffing gloves or contact with patient or patient environment without gloves</p>

With spread of Omicron, fit-tested N95 respirators **should be the default choice of respiratory protection for direct patient/client/resident care in red and orange zones**. Health-care workers may, following completion of a PCRA, choose to wear a procedure mask for non-AGMP care.

# PPE – Emergency Response Services – Medical Air Transport

Areas	Activity	Type of PPE	Specific Instructions
Medical Air Transport	Providing direct care to patients	Respirator N95 or equivalent, or reusable respirator if available  Gloves Gown Eye protection (see specific instructions) Face Shield (see specific instructions)	Practices must be consistent with Safe Work Procedures for Extended PPE when performing AGMPs  Clean/disinfect eye protection per protocols.  Note: N95 respirator and half-mask reusable respirator offer equivalent protection  Hand Hygiene before/after donning/doffing gloves or contact with patient or patient environment without gloves
	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	Respirator N95 or equivalent, or reusable respirator if available  <b>As per Shared Health Recommendations for intubation and other Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures</b>	Practices must be consistent with Safe Work Procedures for Extended PPE when performing AGMPs  Note: N95 respirator and half-mask reusable respirator offer equivalent protection  Hand Hygiene before/after donning/doffing gloves or contact with patient or patient environment without gloves

With spread of Omicron, fit-tested N95 respirators **should be the default choice of respiratory protection for direct patient/client/resident care in red and orange zones**. Health-care workers may, following completion of a PCRA, choose to wear a procedure mask for non-AGMP care.