



Quick Reference Guide

IPAC Recommendations for Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19 (V2 5th April 2020)

The College has created the following quick reference guide for members to PPE using *Updated IPAC Recommendations for Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19 March 25, 2020* <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/updated-ipac-measures-covid-19.pdf?la=en>

Members are strongly advised to review the IPAC and PIDAC recommendations on a frequent basis to remain current.

Community based infection and asymptomatic carriers and the change in case referencing suggests that screening for COVID 19 may not identify the condition in ALL cases. The College understands that PPE and infection control products are in short supply but at this time it strongly recommends that you treat every patient as one which has potentially been exposed to the COVID-19 virus (**Droplet & Contact precautions**, including: *Surgical/procedure mask, Isolation gown, Gloves, Eye protection (goggles or face shield)*).

Point of Care Risk Assessment

A point of care risk assessment (PCRA) assesses the task, the patient and the environment. A PCRA is a dynamic risk assessment completed by the Health Care Worker before every patient interaction in order to determine whether there is risk of being exposed to an infection.

Performing a PCRA is the first step in Routine Practices, which are to be used with all patients, for all care and for all interactions. A PCRA will help determine the correct PPE required to protect the health care worker in their interaction with the patient and patient environment.

Key Findings

- COVID-19 cases and clusters demonstrate that Droplet/Contact transmission are the routes of transmission.
- Most cases are linked to person-to-person transmission through close direct contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19.
- There is no evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted through the airborne route.

Ambulatory & Outpatient Facilities

Setting	Individual	Activity	Type of PPE or procedure
Consultation Room/area	Healthcare workers	Physical examination of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19	<p><u>Droplet and Contact precautions</u>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical/procedure mask • Isolation gown • Gloves • Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
	Environmental Service Workers	After and between consultations with patients suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19	<p><u>Droplet and Contact precautions</u>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical/procedure mask • Isolation gown • Gloves • Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
Waiting Room	Patients suspected or confirmed to have COVID19	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide surgical/procedure mask if tolerated. • Immediately move the patient to a single patient room or separate area away from others; if this is not feasible, ensure spatial distance of at least 2 m from other patients.
	Patients suspected or confirmed to have COVID19	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide surgical/procedure mask if tolerated. • Immediately move the patient to a single patient room or separate area away from others; if this is not feasible, ensure spatial distance of at least 2 m from other patients.

Administrative Areas	All staff, including healthcare workers	Administrative tasks that do not involve contact with patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No PPE required.
Triage/Reception	Healthcare workers	Preliminary screening not involving direct contact	<p>If able to maintain spatial distance of at least 2 m or separation by physical barrier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No PPE required. <p>Otherwise, Droplet and Contact precautions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical/ procedure mask Isolation gown Gloves Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
	Patients suspected or confirmed to have COVID19	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain spatial distance of at least 2 m or separation by physical barrier. Provide surgical/procedure mask if tolerated.