



*Includes Acute Care, Continuing Care, Home Care and Outpatient Services/Primary Health. For additional guidance in other settings, refer to:
[CV-19 G0008 PPE Guidelines for Staff in Testing Assessment Sites and Mobile Testing](#)
[CV-19 G0038 PPE Guidelines When Caring for Patients/Residents Confirmed to Have COVID-19 in Designated Units/Cohorted Spaces](#)
[CV-19 G0079 PPE Guidelines for Emergency Departments](#)
[CV-19 G0060 Continuous and Extended Use - PPE Guidelines for SHA Staff in Non-SHA Operated Facilities](#)
 Note: In this document, the term patient is inclusive of patient, resident and client

General Principles:

1. The PPE recommendations provided in this document may be modified to reflect the differences in the physical layout of the care space and type of activity performed by staff. Always perform a [Point of Care Risk Assessment](#) and use professional and clinical judgement to determine PPE requirements.
2. [Continuous masking](#) is required for all staff and physicians on entry to and in all areas of an SHA building/facility at all times, unless eating and/or drinking.
3. [Continuous eye protection](#) is recommended for staff and physicians when interacting with an unmasked patient and unable to maintain two metre distancing.
4. Extended use is the practice of wearing the same mask and eye protection for repeated interactions with multiple patients without removing in between.
5. Staff working behind physical barriers (i.e. Plexiglass) must follow continuous masking guidelines; however eye protection is not needed.
6. Staff shall perform hand hygiene according to [SHA Hand Hygiene Policy](#).
7. Staff should refer to the [Healthcare Worker Risk Matrix Tool](#) for guidance on potential exposures to COVID-19.

Activity	COVID-19 Status	PPE Required	When to Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff who can consistently and reliably maintain two metres distancing from patients 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask Exception: staff who work in a private office alone (with walls and a door) do not require a mask while they are in their office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within common areas (e.g., hallways, cafeterias, break rooms, lobbies) • Staff who intermittently travel through clinical areas but do not have direct contact with patients (e.g., Medical Records, Medical Device Reprocessing) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift



Activity	COVID-19 Status	PPE Required	When to Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening of patients and/or staff and/or visitors¹ Registration/Reception 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical mask Eye protection (recommended if within two metres of an unmasked patient and no physical barrier is in place) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection (if worn): Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transporting a patient (e.g., Porter) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient has symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen positive) Droplet/Contact Plus precautions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical mask Eye protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection: Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift Gown and gloves: Change between each patient encounter. New gown and gloves required for each patient, and as needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing direct care (e.g., Nurse, Physician, Therapies, Lab etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient room Assessment/Treatment room Ambulatory/Outpatient space Client home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient has symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen positive) Droplet/Contact Plus precautions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical mask Eye protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection: Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift Gown and gloves: Change between each patient encounter. New gown and gloves required for each patient, and as needed

¹ When taking a temperature during screening, gown and gloves are not necessary as there is minimal physical contact with the patient during this interaction.



Activity	COVID-19 Status	PPE Required	When to Change
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient has no symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen negative) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Eye protection (recommended if within two metres of unmasked patient) • Additional PPE as per Point of Care Risk Assessment or if patient is on other Additional Precautions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection (if worn): Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All other staff (e.g., EVS, Food and Nutrition, Social Workers etc.) entering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patient room ○ Assessment/Treatment room ○ Ambulatory/Outpatient space ○ Client home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient has symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen positive) <p>Droplet/Contact Plus precautions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Eye protection • Gown • Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection: Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift • Gown and gloves: Change between each patient encounter. New gown and gloves required for each patient, and as needed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient has no symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen negative) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Eye protection (recommended if within two metres of unmasked patient) • Additional PPE as per Point of Care Risk Assessment or if patient is on other Additional Precautions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when taking a scheduled break and at end of shift • Eye Protection (if worn): Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift



Activity	COVID-19 Status	PPE Required	When to Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff entering a room during an AGMP and until settle time has been achieved NOTE: Do not enter room if Droplet/Contact Plus AND Airborne Precaution Signage or Aerosolize settle time sign is posted and you are not fit-tested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient has symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen positive) <p>Droplet/Contact Plus precautions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 respirator Eye Protection Gown Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 respirator: Change N95 respirator when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when taking a scheduled break and return to continuous mask use guideline Eye Protection: Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift Gown and gloves: Change between each patient encounter. New gown and gloves required for each patient, and as needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff entering a room during an AGMP and until settle time has been achieved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient has no symptoms and/or risk factors for COVID-19 (screen negative) and is test negative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical mask Eye protection Additional PPE as per Point of Care Risk Assessment or if patient is on other Additional Precautions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask: Change when wet, soiled or damaged. Discard when eating and/or drinking, taking a scheduled break and at end of shift Eye Protection: Disinfect when soiled. Remove/disinfect before a scheduled break and at the end of shift. Discard face shield at the end of shift

Medical mask - Refers to a procedure/surgical mask

- Refer to the PPE Rapid Update - [Appropriate Procedure Mask Use](#) for more information

Eye protection – Refers to face shield or goggles (indirect or non-vented)

- Refer to [Eye Protection Guidelines](#) for more information