

Universal PPE Guidelines
COVID-19: Recommended type of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Recommended type of personal protective equipment (PPE) to be used in the context of COVID-19 disease, according to the setting, personnel and type of activity

PLEASE NOTE THAT STAFF MUST BE FIT TESTED TO THEIR SPECIFIC N95 RESPIRATOR MAKE AND MODEL FOR LOCATIONS AND PROCEDURES THAT REQUIRE THE USE OF AN N95 RESPIRATOR.

Inpatient facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Type of PPE or procedure
APU	All who have Direct Patient Contact	During direct patient care	N95 or PAPR Gown Gloves Eye protection
		Outside of patient care areas AND [If APU (231-234) is </= 50% full]	Blue cone or ear loop mask can be worn *When capacity exceeds 50%, N95 masks to be worn at all times when in APU*
Patient transport to and from APU	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: N95 mask + Eye protection + Gloves Patient: Ear loop or blue cone mask + face shield + clean sheet

Inpatient facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination Status	Type of PPE or procedure
CPH/MH/GH ED	All who have Direct Patient Contact	During direct patient care	Fully Vaccinated	N95 or PAPR (duck bill masks to be worn with suspenders) Eye protection PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
			Un/Partially Vaccinated	N95 or PAPR (duck bill masks to be worn with suspenders) Eye protection PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
Patient transport to and from ED	All who have Direct Patient Contact	COVID positive patients	Staff: Vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: Transport box (optional)+ Ear loop or blue cone mask + face shield + clean sheet	
		All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: Ear loop or blue cone mask + clean sheet	

****Higher level PPE, such as N95 masks or PAPRs can be worn during any patient encounter at the interest of the health care worker****

PLEASE REMAIN VIGILENT OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND EVER-CHANGING CARE ENVIRONMENT. CERTAIN CARE ACTIVITIES AND/OR PATIENT INTERACTIONS MAY REQUIRE STAFF TO DON A HIGHER LEVEL OF PPE.

Inpatient/LOC facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination Status	Type of PPE or procedure
Operating Room <i>Urgent/Emergent cases</i> (when patients have NOT been tested for SARS-COV-2 prior to surgery)	Intubation Team	Intubation in OR	N/A	N95 with PAPR Eye protection Gown Gloves
Operating Room <i>Urgent/Emergent cases</i> (when patients have NOT been tested for SARS-COV-2 prior to surgery)	All Other Members of Surgical Team In OR	Surgery or Procedure in OR	Fully vaccinated	Ear loop or blue cone mask Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 Eye protection
Operating Room <i>Elective Procedures</i> (when patients HAVE been tested for SARS-COV-2 prior to surgery)	Intubation Team	Intubation in OR	Fully vaccinated	Surgical mask Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 Eye protection
Operating Room <i>Elective Procedures</i> (when patients HAVE been tested for SARS-COV-2 prior to surgery)	All Other Members of Surgical Team In OR	Surgery or Procedure in OR	Fully vaccinated	Surgical mask Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 Eye protection
Patient transport to OR from Hospital Room	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: Ear loop or blue cone mask Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: Ear loop or blue cone mask + clean sheet	
Patient transport to Hospital Room After Recovery	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: Ear loop or blue cone mask Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: Simple mask + clean sheet	

Inpatient facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination status	Type of PPE or procedure
L&D	All who have Direct Patient Contact	During direct patient care	Fully vaccinated	Ear loop or blue cone mask Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially Vaccinated	N95 or PAPR Eye protection
		Patient rooms with other identified Isolation Precautions	Fully vaccinated	Ear loop or blue cone mask Eye protection PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
			Un/Partially Vaccinated	N95 or PAPR Eye protection PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
		For those in the room during aerosol-generating procedures	N/A	N95 or PAPR Eye protection Gown
Patient care for lab confirmed COVID-19 or PUI	N/A	<i>Bed placement in Negative Pressure Room</i> N95 or PAPR Eye protection Gown		
Patient transport to and from L&D from non-COVID 19/PUI room	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: Ear loop or blue cone mask Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: No PPE	
Patient transport to and from L&D COVID-19/PUI rooms	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: Ear loop or blue cone mask Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: Ear loop or blue cone mask + face shield + clean sheet	

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Inpatient facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination status	Type of PPE or procedure
CCU MSU2 MSU3 Observation	Providing Direct Patient Care	During direct patient care	Fully vaccinated	Ear loop or blue cone mask Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 or PAPR Eye protection
		Patient care in rooms with other identified Isolation Precautions	Fully vaccinated	Ear loop or blue cone mask Eye protection (optional) PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 Eye protection PLUS Recommended PPE as outlined by applicable Isolation Precautions <i>(ear loop or blue cone mask should be exchanged for appropriate mask per alternative Isolation Precaution recommendations)</i>
For those in the room during aerosol-generating procedures	N/A	N95 or PAPR Eye protection Gown		
Patient transport to and from MSU2/MSU3/ Observation	All who have Direct Patient Contact	All patients	Staff: Vaccinated: Ear loop or blue cone mask Un/Partially vaccinated: N95 mask + eye protection Patient: mask	

If patient on MSU3 is identified as a PUI, patient should be relocated to APU. Contact Nurse Manager for further instruction prior to relocating patient. **Higher level PPE, such as N95 masks or PAPRs can be worn during any patient encounter at the interest of the health care worker*

Last updated 9/3/21

Outpatient Facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination status	Type of PPE or procedure
PPM clinics Non-PPM clinics	Providing Direct Patient Care	During direct patient care	Fully vaccinated	Medical grade ear loop or blue cone mask; N95 Strongly Recommended Eye protection (optional)
			Un/Partially vaccinated	N95 Eye protection
		For those in the room during aerosol-generating procedures	N/A	N95 or PAPR Eye protection Gown
	Non-clinical	All times	N/A	Medical grade ear loop or blue cone mask; N95 Strongly Recommended Eye protection (optional)

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Outpatient Facilities	Target personnel	Activity	Vaccination status	Type of PPE or procedure
Urgent Care	Providing Direct Patient Care	During direct patient care	Fully vaccinated	N95 Eye protection
			Un/Partially vaccinated	
		For those in the room during aerosol-generating procedures	N/A	N95 Eye protection
	Non-clinical	All times	N/A	N95 Eye protection

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	Target personnel	Activity	Type of PPE or procedure
Non-patient care areas where there is potential close patient proximity (registration, switchboard, cafeteria, waiting rooms)	Staff	All	If 6ft distancing or barrier protection is not available don an ear loop or blue cone mask
Non-patient care areas where there is little to no patient contact (Administrators, IT, Pharmacy)	Staff	All	Blue cone or ear loop mask in public areas

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The Guidelines above are applicable to all St. Lawrence Health Systems locations. The above PPE recommendations are supplemental to the standard and transmission based [Isolation Precautions](#) and PPE requirements for certain locations. More-detailed PPE requirements can be found on the SLHS Employee Toolkit.

Glossary

Direct patient encounter: Providing services within 6 feet of a patient in a care area; e.g., exam room, procedure room, patient room

Eye protection:

Approved eye protection includes:

- Face shield; molded vs. flat
- Tidi shields: should be reserved for staff who need to wear prescription glasses for patient care
- Other options may be brought forward for a formal review and approval through the Infection Prevention Department.

Medical grade mask: Any hospital issued mask: ear loop surgical mask, blue cone mask, ear loop KN95, or, for OR use: surgical tie masks

N95: Fit tested, hospital issued N95 mask which include, but is not limited, to a Kimberly Clark duck bill, 3M cone, and/or approved N95 equivalent

Note: KN95's are not an acceptable form of N95.