

Isolation Updates

We are closely monitoring our PPE supply. We all need to be good stewards of these resources and use appropriately to keep employees and patients safe.

Personal Protective Equipment Use

- **Standard Isolation Mask Conservation:** *We are not currently asking staff to reuse isolation masks between patient use. However, the following measures have been implemented to conserve masks in non-patient care settings:*
 - *All patients and visitors entering the facilities will now be screened for travel, symptoms, and temperatures will be taken. The staff performing the screenings will wear appropriate PPE. This is in an effort to conserve our resources and help the staff feel secure about any patient or visitor they could be interacting with daily.*
 - *Isolation masks have been removed from the majority of stations in public areas. These are restricted to designated locations near main entry points and elevators that are monitored by Security Services/Guest Services. Masks from other stations will no longer be stocked by EVS to conserve supply.*
 - *If needed for patients with respiratory symptoms, masks are in locations where area staff are able to monitor supply.*
 - *Isolation/procedure mask are effective for use with patients who are being ruled-out/suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19.*
- **CAPR Hood Respirator Conservation:**
 - *CAPRs are effective for use with patients who are having aerosolized procedures in patients who are rule-out/suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19.*
 - *These patients should be in Airborne & Contact precautions.*
 - *For CAPR conservation, use only as indicated for patients in Airborne Precautions.*
 - *For use with COVID-19 patients: use disposable lens cuff for entire 12 hour shift unless it becomes soiled or is no longer form fitting or visually impaired due to cleaning.*
 - *Follow the CAPR cleaning protocol after each use for patients in Airborne Precautions for COVID-19 - See attached cleaning protocol approved.*
- **General PPE Conservation:** *To reduce use of all PPE in general, including masks, gowns, goggles and gloves, limit entry of any non-essential staff into all isolation rooms (including Droplet, Contact, Airborne, and Special Contact precautions).*
- **VRE:**
 - *Current literature does not support the use of contact isolation for VRE, we have discontinued this practice.*
- **MRSA Active Surveillance and Isolation:**
 - *IDPH has issued guidance on suspending this practice in an effort to conserve PPE*
 - *We are temporarily stopping this practice for patients who are colonized without active infection*
 - *We will continue to isolate those with wounds that cannot be contained or with MRSA pneumonia*