



## All Clinical Staff

# COVID -19 PPE Prioritization Framework

## March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

<b>What's New?</b>	<p>In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the Ministry of Health has implemented Stage 4 of the PPE Allocation Framework to ensure staff and patient safety by preserving and prioritizing PPE supplies.</p> <p>This new Policy and application framework outlines how healthcare workers and staff will adapt practice to limit PPE usage to conserve supply and maintain personal and Patient safety.</p> <p>This practice change decision comes after significant review from our healthcare leaders for Infection Prevention and Control in consultation with Clinical and Professional Practice leaders. This has been discussed extensively by the senior leadership team and with our partners at Health Authority, provincial and regional tables. Core to these discussions is the protection and safety of you, our patients and their families.</p>
<b>Why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategies implemented to preserve PPE and mitigate the demand for N95 respirators and all PPE items include limiting the use of N95 respirators to health care workers who are directly involved in patient care or related work that requires an N95 respirator.</li> <li>These measures to preserve and prioritize PPE apply to this period of pandemic and limited supplies only. Return to usual Routine Practices and Additional Precautions as per Infection Prevention &amp; Control policies and procedures when supplies are abundant.</li> </ul>
<b>How does this affect my practice?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health care workers and staff will limit PPE Usage: Keep PPE on in between patient encounters, and if PPE is doffed, it must be replaced by a clean set.</li> <li>Remember: Infection Prevention and Control guidance for COVID-19 remains that Droplet &amp; Contact Precautions apply and N95 respirator are not required unless Airborne Precautions including aerosol generating medical procedure (AGMP) is being performed.</li> </ul> <p>For details review the Policy &amp; Procedure document on ePOPs <a href="#">HERE</a></p>
<b>How do I find out more?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For More details on the MoH <i>COVID-19: Emergency Prioritization in a Pandemic Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Allocation Framework</i> <a href="#">HERE</a></li> </ul>
<b>Who do I contact for further information?</b>	<p>For access to Policy &amp; procedure documents search <a href="#">ePOPs</a></p> <p>Contact your area clinical leaders, educators or professional practice leaders for more support</p> <p>Page the Infection Control Practitioner at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Local 2161 or pager 41-02411 Monday to Friday 0800-1600 or <a href="mailto:IPACS@cw.bc.ca">IPACS@cw.bc.ca</a></b></li> </ul> <p>After Hours page the Infection Control Officer through paging 2161</p>