

Personal Protective Equipment Guidelines Ventura County Medical Center and Santa Paula Hospital

The following PPE guideline is based on:

- Interpretation of CDC Guidelines for COVID-19
- Current and projected inventory of PPE supplies
- **This guideline is subject to change**

If having symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell, do not come to work: notify your supervisor. Some type of mask should be worn by everyone in patient care settings. Masks may be removed while eating or drinking in the break room, taking care to ensure >6 feet of social distancing between individuals in the break room.



Staff - Situation	PPE	Instructions
Staff working in non-hospital/clinic settings	no need to wear masks	Maintain “social distancing” (6 feet) and diligent hand hygiene practices. Sani-wipe (purple top) work area and high touch areas at least daily.
Staff working in hospital/clinic settings with no direct patient contact	cloth mask	Wear cloth mask while in the hospital/clinic working within 6 feet of others. Can be used for one shift. Remove and replace if becomes moist. Perform hand hygiene before and after touching mask.
Staff involved in direct patient care	Medical, surgical, or procedure mask	Wear medical, surgical, or procedure mask at all times while in the hospital or clinic in patient care areas. Can be used for up to 1 week. Discard and replace if becomes moist or soiled during patient care. Perform hand hygiene before and after touching mask. Face shields to be worn over masks when caring for patients on droplet precautions.

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Patient Care Employees

Below are examples of the types of PPE used at VCMC/SPH in accordance with CDC and WHO guidelines and made available to staff and Physicians.

- Follow guidelines for PPE use and according to availability.
- See **“Guidelines for Conservation of PPE”** for details.
- If you are bringing PPE from outside the hospital, it should be approved by Bob Tumpene in Central Supply before use. N95 respirators from outside the hospital cannot be assumed to function as respirators unless you have been fit tested in said N95 by Respiratory Therapy.
- Contact your manager/director for more supplies.
- Follow donning and doffing protocol – watch videos posted on VCMC med staff website, and follow along with “Putting on PPE” and “Removing PPE” signs posted inside and outside patient rooms when entering and exiting.

Picture	Description/Use
	<p>Medical, Surgical, or Procedure Face Mask, Fluid Repellent, 3 Layers - multiple manufacturers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear while in the hospital/clinic settings when working in patient care area. Can be used for up to one week. Discard and replace if it becomes moist. Perform hand hygiene before and after touching mask. • Used for general patient care in Droplet Isolation. Discard and replace if it becomes moist. Perform hand hygiene before and after adjusting/removing mask.
	<p>Disposable gowns - multiple manufacturers</p> <p>Disposable gowns should be used for patients under Contact Isolation, and may be disposed of in regular trash bins in the patient’s room. Don and doff gowns per guidelines on “Putting on PPE” and “Removing PPE” signs posted inside and outside patient rooms.</p>

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	<p>Head covers (bonnets)</p> <p>Not recommended when caring for COVID-19 patients per WHO and CDC guidelines. However, head covers are part of standard precautions in the operating room (OR). HCW may also choose to wear head covers to protect the hair and scalp from possible contamination when sprays are anticipated.</p> <p>If using in the operating room, or choosing to wear under other circumstances, HCW should doff in reverse order of donning (i.e. if head cover was put on after face shield was put on, head cover should be removed before face shield is removed. If head cover was put on before mask and face shield, head cover should be removed last).</p>
	<p>Non-disposable Face Shields:</p> <p>Used for protection of the facial area and associated mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth) from splashes, sprays, and splatter of body fluids. Should be used for eye protection and to protect masks from contamination when engaged in general patient care for patients in Enhanced Droplet Isolation and Airborne Isolation.</p> <p>Clean with available sani-wipes (allowing for appropriate dwell time) or hospital-approved soap and water before reuse.</p>
	<p>Shoe covers:</p> <p>Not recommended when caring for COVID-19 patients per WHO and CDC guidelines. However, shoe covers are part of standard precautions in the operating room (OR). HCW may choose to wear shoe covers to provide a barrier against contact with a contaminated environment.</p> <p>If choosing to wear shoe covers, HCW should doff shoe covers prior to doffing gown and gloves in patient room. Wear single use per patient, dispose in regular trash in the patient's room.</p>

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VCMC/SPH N95 Mask Distribution – Masks will be distributed in order as listed, based on availability. If you have other hospital approved masks, please notify Central Supply.

- N95 masks are to be used by staff providing direct patient care only
- Do not use masks from outside VCMC/SPH unless you have been fit tested with that mask
- Fit Test as needed, call Respiratory Therapy

3M™ 1860 (Size: Small and Regular)



3M™ P100 Respirator




3M™ Aura 1870




- Use N95 for care of patients in **Airborne Isolation** (and when conducting aerosol-generating procedures, e.g. intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy, EGD/ERCP, see full list). Cover with face shield.
- Wear one N95 respirator for up to **five uses or 8 consecutive hours**. The respirator could last for 5 days or longer, depending on your work schedule and frequency of direct patient care.
- N95s that become moist from respiration can be dried out in a brown paper bag and reused.
- If at any point the respirator becomes soiled or the fit check demonstrates air flow between mask and face, N95 should be disposed of in N95 collection bin found on each unit.
- To minimize potential cross-contamination, store respirators (one per brown paper bag while in use), with your name on the bag and store in a designated location (see manager/per unit). Do not crush. Storage containers should be disposed of if they get wet or soiled. See **“Guidelines for Conservation of PPE”**.

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Picture	Description/Use
<p>3M™ 6800 Full Face Reusable Respirator</p> 	<p>Reusable Respirator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be used if N95 not available, or if HCW has failed fit testing for available N95. • Use respirator for care of patients in Airborne Isolation (and when conducting aerosol-generating procedures for COVID-19 suspect or positive patients, e.g. intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy, EGD/ERCP, see full list). • Clean with available sani-wipes (allowing for appropriate dwell time). • Store on “dry hooks” in clean patient care area, or at your work station.

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Picture	Description/Use
Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)	
	<p>PAPR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be used if N95 not available, or if HCW has failed fit testing for available N95. • Use respirator for care of patients in Airborne Isolation (and when conducting aerosol-generating procedures for COVID-19 suspect or positive patients, e.g. intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy, EGD/ERCP, see full list). • Clean with available sani-wipes (allowing for appropriate dwell time). • Store on “dry hooks” in clean patient care area, or at your work station.