

Revised Recommendations for Patient Placement and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) For Patients with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19

March 12, 2020

NYP is implementing these changes effective immediately.

On March 10, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) updated their recommendations for infection prevention and control related to patients with suspected or confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). **The most notable changes include a shift toward Droplet and Contact Precautions, without the use of Airborne Precautions, for the care of most patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.** These are changes that we have been anticipating as more data about the epidemiology of COVID-19 has become available.

Patient Placement

- Patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should be placed in a **single room with the door closed**. If a single room is not immediately available, the patient should wear a surgical mask (if able to tolerate) and be physically separated from other patients (e.g., drawing a privacy curtain, >3-6 feet separation). Movement to a single room should occur as soon as possible.
 - The provider should **enter orders for Contact and Droplet Precautions**.

EMR	Order
Allscripts	IPAC-Contact and IPAC-Droplet
EPIC	Initiate Contact Isolation and Initiate Droplet Isolation
Other EMRs	Droplet and Contact Precautions

- Airborne Isolation Infection Rooms (AIIR), also referred to as negative-pressure rooms, should be prioritized for patients for whom aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., intubation, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, bronchoscopy, nebulizer therapy, sputum induction) are anticipated.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All personnel entering the room of a patient with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 must done PPE appropriate for Contact and Droplet Precautions:
 - **Gown**
 - **Mask with face shield**
 - **Gloves**
- **N95 respirators** are required only during the performance of **aerosol-generating procedures** (e.g., intubation, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, bronchoscopy).