

ARIZONA COVID-19

COVID-19 Infection Control and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance for Arizona

Background

It is important for healthcare workers to be protected as they provide patient care to Arizonans. The use of appropriate and indicated personal protective equipment (PPE) will reduce the spread of COVID-19 and the required follow-up monitoring.

SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 infection, is transmitted via respiratory droplets between people in close contact and contact with contaminated surfaces of equipment. There is no reliable evidence showing airborne transmission. As such, the Arizona Department of Health Services, in alignment with the [WHO](#), recommends airborne precautions for aerosolizing procedures only.

PPE Recommendations

When in a room with a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and **NO aerosol-generating procedures are being performed** (e.g., tracheal intubation, non-invasive ventilation, tracheostomy, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, manual ventilation before intubation, bronchoscopy), all healthcare personnel should wear:

- Surgical (medical) mask
- Gown
- Gloves
- Eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield)

Due to the change in transmission-based precautions from airborne to standard, contact, and droplet precautions, it is NOT NECESSARY to place a suspect COVID-19 patient or confirmed COVID-19 patient in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR). A private room with a closed door is acceptable.

When in a room with a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and **aerosol-generating procedures are being performed** (e.g., tracheal intubation, non-invasive ventilation, tracheostomy, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, manual ventilation before intubation, bronchoscopy), all healthcare personnel should wear:

- N95 respirator (or equivalent)
- Gown
- Gloves
- Eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield)

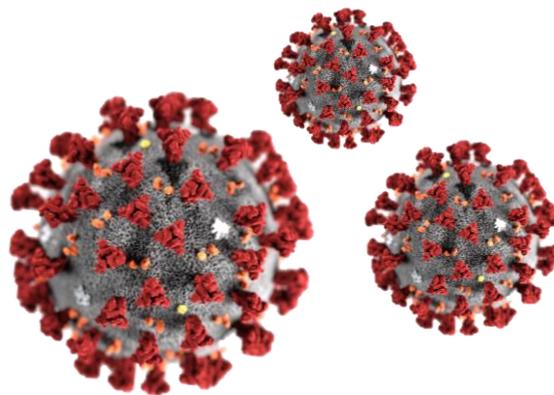
Using an AIIR for aerosol-generating procedures is recommended.

PPE Shortage

The Arizona Department of Health Services is aware of national and local shortages of personal protective equipment.

All facilities and administrators are advised immediately to:

- Ensure that N95 and regular surgical masks are used as listed above.
- Optimize the [supply of personal protective equipment](#) in the event of shortages.
 - Identify mechanisms to procure additional supplies when needed.
 - Draft policies for students and learners to not provide direct patient care in order to conserve supplies.
- Explore alternatives to face-to-face triage and visits, in order to not use up protective equipment.
 - Instruct patients to use available advice lines, patient portals, online self-assessment tools, or call and speak to office/clinic staff if they become ill with symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
 - Identify staff to conduct telephonic and telehealth interactions with patients.
 - Develop protocols so that staff can triage and assess patients quickly.
 - Determine algorithms to identify which patients can be managed by telephone and advised to stay home, and which patients will need to be sent for emergency care or come to your facility.
- Contact your [local health department](#) for their situational awareness and to place pressure on vendors for availability.



Additional Resources*

- [Healthcare Personnel Preparedness Checklist for COVID-19](#)
- [Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation \(PUI\)](#)
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) or Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak and Infection Control Guidance for Healthcare Facilities](#)

*Some resources may differ from Arizona recommendations. Please refer back to Arizona guidance for specifics pertaining to Arizona.