COVID-19 Self-Screening and Monitoring Tools for Healthcare Workers

Background
The coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic has resulted in many healthcare workers in facilities and home care settings becoming exposed. These workers pose a significant risk to transmission of COVID-19 to high-risk patients in long-term care settings. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed recommendations for screening and monitoring of healthcare workers. Healthcare workers in various healthcare settings should adhere to these recommendations when visiting patients in facilities. As demonstrated by an outbreak in a long-term care facility in Washington, healthcare workers that travel between facilities may be at especially high risk for transmission to patients because these workers may not receive consistent messaging or supervision on how to prevent transmission.

Purpose
The tools can be used by healthcare workers to screen and monitor themselves for symptoms and easily demonstrate their risk status to facilities when they enter a facility. The tools also remind healthcare workers of best practices when entering a facility to provide care for a patient, including defining when they should consult with higher level clinical staff of the facility before entering. These tools will be especially useful for hospice workers, home health, and other healthcare workers who are not on the staff of a facility, but regularly enter the facility to work with patients or residents.


Recommendation of the Long-Term Care Subcommittee of the Utah COVID-19 Unified Command

Last updated: 09/28/2020
Healthcare Worker (HCW) Screening Tool and Passport

To diminish the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to long-term care residents, the Long-Term Care Subcommittee of the Utah Governor’s COVID-19 Unified Command developed a best-practices screening tool for healthcare workers that ensures communication of potential exposure. This tool ensures individual, household, and occupational exposures are documented and communicated before individuals enter care settings and allows healthcare workers to track their exposure every 24 hours.

The Decision Tree can be used at entry to facilities and provides screening and education on medium and high-risk exposures. Facility leadership will assist the healthcare worker with decisions on appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the nature of planned care. High-risk exposures may necessitate replacement of staff to prevent asymptomatic transmission to residents.

The Passport is a tool that can guide healthcare workers visiting multiple facilities to document their risk and guide timing of visits (e.g., multiple resident facilities with no COVID-19 patients’ first visits, then COVID-19-exposed facilities later in the schedule). It also provides guidance on appropriate PPE.

- Wear gloves, a surgical mask and eye protection or face shield (when available) while working with ALL patients.
- Avoid removing your surgical mask during your shift.
- Wear a gown during close contact with any patient (e.g., bathing or cleaning).

Caring for Patients with COVID-19+, Test Pending, or Cough, Fever, Shortness of Breath
Use contact/droplet precautions: gown, gloves, mask and eye protection/face shield when providing cares within 6 feet of patient.

Aerosol-Generating Procedures for All Patients
Wear contact-airborne precautions: gown, gloves, PAPR (if available) or N95 and face shield on any patient during treatment and for an hour after treatment.
Directions
Answer questions 1-4.

If you answer ‘NO’ to all 4 questions:
- Proceed with care.

If you answer ‘YES’ to any question:
- Record on your Passport document;
- Review response with Director of Nursing (DON) or appointed clinician.

Moderate Risk: Requires clearance.

High Risk: Requires review AND replacement.

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**Stop. Think. Assess. Every Interaction and Assess Highest Risk Encounter**

**Question 1**
Do you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, decreased sense of smell or taste, sore or scratchy throat, or muscle aches and pains?
- **No** → Continue to Question 2
- **Yes** → High Risk

**Question 2**
Do you have anyone in your household that has tested COVID-19+ or exhibited any fever, cough or shortness of breath?
- **No** → Continue to Question 3
- **Yes** → High Risk

**Question 3**
Have you provided care/support to a patient who is COVID-19+ or has any fever, cough or shortness of breath?
- **No** → Continue to Question 4
- **Yes** → High Risk

**Question 4**
Have you provided care or been in a room when a COVID-19+ or symptomatic patient has been given an aerosolizing treatment without a PAPR or properly fit tested N95 mask for any amount of time?
- **No** → Moderate Risk
- **Yes** → High Risk

**Moderate Risk**
Requires a review for clearance with the Director of Nursing or appointed clinician of that building/setting

**High Risk**
Requires a review and replacement plan with the Director of Nursing or appointed clinician of that building/setting

*Aerosolized Treatments: NP Swab, Nebulizer, CPAP/BIPAP, Open Suctioning, High-Flow O2, Intubation, Ventilation Chest PT, Cough Assist*
Wear gloves, a surgical mask and eye protection or face shield (when available) while working with ALL patients.

Avoid removing your surgical mask during your shift.

Wear a gown during close contact with any patient (e.g., bathing or cleaning).

Caring for patients with COVID-19 +; test pending; or cough, fever, shortness of breath

Use contact/droplet precautions: gown, gloves, mask and eye protection/face shield

Aerosol-Generating Procedures for All Patients

Wear contact-airborne precautions: gown, gloves, PAPR (if available) or N95 and face shield on any patient during treatment and for an hour after treatment.
Wear gloves, a surgical mask and eye protection or face shield (when available) while working with ALL patients.

Avoid removing your surgical mask during your shift.

Wear a gown during close contact with any patient (e.g., bathing or cleaning).

Stop. Think. Assess. Every Interaction and Record Risk Every 24 hours

Is there a known COVID-19+ patient in any listed facility/agency?

Yes
No

Do not bring any unnecessary items into the facility/home. Take PPE for that care session and no personal belongings.

Please leave all gait belts, stethoscopes, cuffs, computers, etc. secured outside of facilities. Facilities are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Caring for patients with COVID-19 +; test pending; or cough, fever, shortness of breath

Use contact/droplet precautions: gown, gloves, mask and eye protection/face shield.

Aerosol-Generating Procedures for All Patients

Wear contact-airborne precautions: gown, gloves, PAPR (if available) or N95 and face shield on any patient during treatment and for an hour after treatment.

Moderate Risk
Requires a review for clearance with the Director of Nursing or appointed clinician of that building/setting

High Risk
Requires a review and replacement plan with the Director of Nursing or appointed clinician of that building/setting