Caring for a patient

**Rule out & Confirmed COVID-19**

- All health care personnel follow **Contact/Droplet + Eyewear** for any Rule out COVID patient
- All health care personnel follow **Specified Precautions** for any CONFIRMED COVID patient
- Personal Protective Equipment Required: Follow instructions on Isolation Signs

- Doff Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in this order
  1. Gloves
  2. Eyewear
  3. Gown
  4. Face Mask/N-95/PAPR to be removed upon exiting room
  5. Perform hand hygiene
     - Perform hand hygiene between steps if hands become contaminated
     - Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing all PPE
• **Only essential personnel** should enter the room.
  - **CONFIRMED COVID:**
    1. Maintain a room entry log of all of all persons who care for or enter the room.

• **During aerosol generating procedures**, N95 respiratory masks are required for all caregivers present in the room. After the procedure, there is no wait time required before caregivers can resume wearing a facemask for general care.

• **Dedicated medical equipment should be used for patient care.** All non-dedicated, non-disposable medical equipment used for patient care should be cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer’s instructions and facility policies.

• **Environmental Cleaning:** Clean, disinfect and sterilize patient care equipment per routine protocol
  - Use EPA-registered products with a label claim against human coronaviruses. Super Sani-cloth® or Clorox healthcare® bleach germicidal wipes are acceptable products. Use products following manufacturer’s instructions
  - Change curtains only if patient occupies room >24 hours

• **Restrict visitors from entering the room of known COVID-2019 patients.** Exceptions to this only after consultation with local care team.

• **Limit the movement and transport of COVID-2019 patient** from the room to essential testing and diagnostic purposes only. Notify any department where the patient is being referred to about the patient’s suspected infectious status. Do not refer patient to areas that cannot implement the appropriate infection control measures outlined above.

• **For facility to facility transport** refer to [Ohio Department of Health Transport Guidance](#).

• **Duration of Isolation Precautions**
  - Rule out COVID: Refer to De-escalation of Isolation Grid
  - Confirmed COVID patients: Determined on a case-by-case basis, in conjunction with Infection Prevention.

• **Post Mortem care of a rule out or COVID positive patient**
  - Maintain isolation precautions (Droplet/Contact + Eyewear or Specific Precautions) including PPE requirements while performing post mortem care.
Follow other routine care of the patient referenced in the Post Mortem Care of the Patient protocol.

- Disinfect the outside of the bag with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant (e.g. Super Sani wipes or Bleach wipes) after transfer to the stretcher.
- Wear disposable gloves when handling the body bag in the morgue.

* Refer to the Specified Precautions Policy for additional information.