

COVID-19 Guidance: Ambulatory Assessment Sites

VUMC has revised PPE Guidelines based on the TN Dept of Health Guidance:

For Patients with Respiratory Symptoms (acute cough, cold symptoms, with/without a fever):

- Mask the patient upon arrival to the clinic.
- Move the patient to a room and close the door.
- Place the patient on Droplet Precautions, Contact Precautions, & Eye Protection; utilize door signs.
- Coordinate care and reduce staff and trips into the room. Limit care to one nurse and one clinician.
- Those entering the room should wear gown, gloves, mask, and eye protection.
- Explain respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette (cough into tissue or arm).
- The patient should wear the mask through the clinic visit and back to their car.
- Perform hand hygiene using either soap/water or alcohol based hand rub.



Cleaning Rooms:

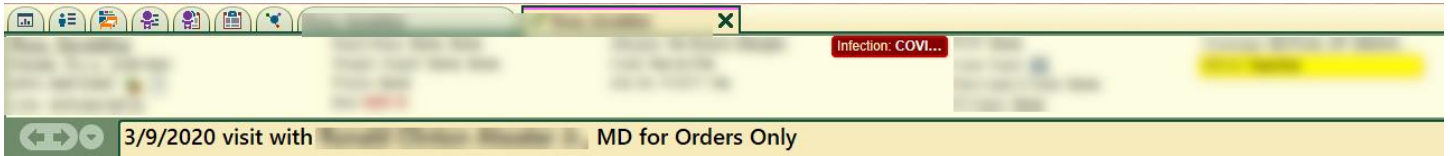
- Clean surfaces and equipment in the room that may have come into contact with the patient
- Don gloves and disinfect with purple top or bleach wipes
- It is no longer necessary to close the room for 2 hours.

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Frequently Asked Questions

How will I know if my patient is a Person Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19?

A flag is available in eStar and will alert you to “COVID Suspected” or “COVID Confirmed” patient.



If I have additional questions regarding PPE criteria who should I call?

Call Infection Prevention 615-835-1205 for specific PPE criteria. If you have questions about coronavirus visit www.vumc.org/coronavirus

When should N95 masks be used?

The recommendation for COVID-19 is that N95 masks should only be used with aerosol generating procedures which includes bronchoscopy, intubating, extubating, open suctioning, bipap, etc.



What Eye Protection can be reused?

A full face shield and goggles can be reused by wiping down with disinfecting wipes and allowing to dry. It can be stored in a plastic bag and labeled with a marker.



The mask/splashguard apparatus cannot be reused and should be discarded each time.