

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL COVID-19 COMMITTEE

Bulletin #46 – COVID-19 – ID-IPC – Guidance Ambulatory Care – May 20 2020

COVID-19 Patient Care and Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Measures

Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Ambulatory Services – Orange Phase

The [Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Ambulatory Services](#) document is available on Skyline and outlines IPC measures for the current phase of the COVID-19 Response outlines processes related to:

- Pre-screening before appointment
- Day of procedure – registration process
- Pre-procedure and post procedure bed space process

In addition to the universal masking protocol for patients and the public, a 2-meter distance must be maintained between patients in waiting rooms and in ambulatory care areas. Wearing masks does not replace physical distancing. Physical distancing, environmental cleaning and adherence to hand hygiene protocols are all essential.

Pre-Procedure COVID-19

Screen patients at the time of scheduling

- Advise patients that only one family members/caregiver can accompany them to their appointment
- Inform patient that family member/caregiver will be requested to return later or wait in vehicle until they are notified for post-procedure pick-up.

Day of Procedure

- Patient and family member/caregiver will be screened at the hospital entrance
- Patient and family member/caregiver will be provided with a mask, asked to clean their hands and directed to the registration area
- Following registration, the patient will proceed directly to the procedure area
- The distance between each bed space will be maximized (to comply when possible with the 2 metres physical distancing requirement)
- Each stretcher will be separated by a privacy curtain and will have an accessible alcohol-based hand rinse (ABHR) dispenser

- Family member/caregiver will be requested to return later or wait in vehicle until they are notified for post-procedure pick-up
- Waiting room chairs will be spaced 2 metres apart
- Family member/caregiver who is unable to wait in the car or offsite must wear a mask at all times

Pre-Procedure/Post Procedure Bed Space Process

- Complete pre-procedure assessment and re- screen patient for symptoms of COVID-19 and contact/travel history in their bed space
- Use same space for post-procedure care, this reduces the need for cleaning between individual patients
- Patients will continue to wear their mask throughout entire stay. The patient's mask may need to be removed for the provision of care, however immediately following the procedure, the patient will don a mask for the remainder of their hospital visit
- Proceed with patient's discharge education as usual (with appropriate distancing and protective measures)
- Notify the family member/caregiver by phone when the patient is ready for discharge and review the patient's follow-up plans at this time if previously authorized by the patient
- Patient may ambulate to the vehicle or be transported by wheelchair at the HCW's discretion

The Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Ambulatory Services document was developed by the ID/IPC COVID-19 Committee and approved by the Regional Emergency Operations Committee.