

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL COVID-19 COMMITTEE

Bulletin #193a - COVID-19 - ID-IPC - Red Phase Guidance Continuous Use of Eye Protection
- Jan 31 2022

COVID-19 Red Phase Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Guidance Continuous Use of Eye Protection in Clinical and Non-Clinical settings

NOTE: Eye Protection has been shown to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection by 40 to 90%.

With the high risk of exposure to the Omicron variant in the community and the risk of transmission between health care workers (HCWs), the continuous use of eye protection is now mandatory at **all** times for **all** HCWs in **all clinical** and **non-clinical** settings in all Horizon facilities.

Clinical settings

All HCWs working in high-risk clinical settings (i.e. COVID-19 units, ERs, All ICUs, ORs, and COVID-19 Assessment Centres) will wear facial protection, N95 respirator/*well fitted medical grade face mask and eye protection (**goggles/face shield**), continuously, at all times in all areas of their workplace when a physical barrier (i.e., plexiglass) is not in place to prevent transmission of infection. This includes all interactions with patients, coworkers, and others.

All HCWs will wear facial protection, N95 respirator/*well fitted medical grade face mask and eye protection (**goggles/face shield**), when providing care to suspect/confirmed COVID-19 patients.

All HCWs working in non-high risk clinical settings will wear facial protection, N95 respirator/*well fitted medical grade face mask and eye protection (**safety glasses**), continuously, at all times in all areas of their workplace when a physical barrier (i.e., plexiglass) is not in place to prevent transmission of infection. This includes all interactions with patients, coworkers, and others.

Non-clinical Settings

All HCWs working in non-clinical settings will wear facial protection, *well fitted medical grade face mask and eye protection (**safety glasses**), continuously, at all times when a physical barrier (i.e., plexiglass) is not in place or when physical distancing cannot be maintained to

prevent the transmission of infection. This includes all interactions with coworkers and others. A N95 respirator is available as an option in these settings.

*A well fitted medical grade face mask covers your nose, mouth, chin, and fits snugly against the sides of your face with no gaps.