



HOMES AND SENIOR SERVICES

POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER: 2.27

DEPARTMENT: *Infection Control*

POLICY: *PPE Stewardship*

APPROVAL DATE: November 2022

REVISION DATE:

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POLICY:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) stewardship includes all aspects of managing PPE in the home. This includes; ensuring adequate supply; making choices about distribution, and ensuring that PPE is selected, used and disposed of properly. It should also include ensuring that PPE is selected and used in an evidence-based manner.

PROCEDURE:

Personal Protective Equipment Use and Stewardship When caring for all residents:

- Appropriate PPE selection is supported by a point of care risk assessment (PCRA), clinical and professional judgement, and evidence-based recommendations
- Health care workers should follow hand hygiene best practices for every encounter with a resident
- Universal masking (masks worn by everyone at all times) in health care settings is indicated as a means of source control (masks worn to protect others). This applies to health care workers, residents (if possible), caregivers, visitors, and other staff in any health care setting (e.g. inpatient facilities, home and community care settings). This also applies to any individual accompanying residents for their care (e.g. an inpatient walking down the hall for a test, family member assisting with care during a home and community care visit).

Wearing a mask is not a substitute for physical distancing, hand washing, or other infection prevention and control measure.

When caring for residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:

- Droplet/contact precautions (surgical/procedure mask, isolation gown, gloves, and eye protection) are used for all interactions
- In addition to droplet/contact precautions, airborne precautions (N95 respirator, isolation gown, gloves, and eye protection) are used when aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMPs) are planned or anticipated for residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19



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The Home shall make PPE available and accessible to staff and residents, appropriate to their role and level of risk. This shall include having a PPE supply and stewardship plan in place and ensuring adequate access to PPE for Routine Practices and Additional Precautions.

- PPE supply and stewardship plan is consistent with any relevant Directives and/or Guidance, regarding appropriate PPE use, from the Chief Medical Officer of Health or the Minister of Long-Term Care, which may be in place

Training and assistance, will be provided and appropriate to the needs and level of understanding for staff, residents or visitors, related to use of PPE.

Plan in place to optimize supplies in order to preserve, secure resources for ensuring sufficient PPE is available during any outbreak management situation.

Resources:

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Standard for Long-Term Care Homes April 2022