Our recommendations are based on current national guidelines and relevant evidence-base. This guideline helps inform clinicians clinical judgement. However, clinicians will consider the trade-off between the benefits and harms of an intervention before making a clinical decision.

# PRT04 Respiratory Illnesses Protocol

#### **1.0 Procedure Statement (Purpose / Objectives of the Procedure)**

Respiratory viruses include seasonal, avian, and pandemic influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and severe acute respiratory syndromes (SARS).

COVID-19, a form of SARS, along with many other respiratory infections such as influenza (flu), can spread easily and cause serious illness in some people. You may be infected with a respiratory virus such as COVID-19 and not have any symptoms but still pass infection onto others.

The common respiratory viruses are seasonal influenza and RSV. They can infect any age group although the severe complications of such infection are often restricted to children and the elderly. These viruses are most commonly transmitted by airborne droplets or nasal secretions and can lead to a wide spectrum of illness. In the UK many of these viruses are seasonal in their activity and tend to circulate at higher levels during the winter months.

The risk of catching or passing on a respiratory illness is greatest when someone who is infected is physically close to or sharing an enclosed and/or poorly ventilated space with other people. When someone with a respiratory viral infection such as COVID-19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release small particles that contain the virus which causes the infection. These particles can be breathed in or can come into contact with the eyes, nose, or mouth. The particles can also land on surfaces and be passed from person to person via touch.

#### 2.0 Accountabilities

As stated in the National infection prevention and control manual for England C1691

Chief Executive/Executive Board are responsible for:

- ensuring systems and resources are available to implement compliance with infection prevention and control
- culture that encourages safe working practices for everyone
- safe systems of work, including managing the risk associated with infectious agents through completion of risk assessments and approved through local governance procedures

Chief Operating Officers (COOs) are responsible for

- directing the conduct of operational activities in relation to this protocol
- providing leadership, support, direction and assurance
  Director of Infection Prevention and Control (DIPC) is responsible for ensuring
- adoption and implementation of this protocol in accordance with local governance processes

Disclaimer:

Our recommendations are based on current national guidelines and relevant evidence-base. This guideline helps inform clinicians clinical judgement. However, clinicians will consider the trade-off between the benefits and harms of an intervention before making a clinical decision.

Matrons/Managers/Senior Sisters/Charge Nurses of all services must ensure that staff:

- are aware of and have access to this protocol, including measures required to protect themselves and other staff from infection risk
- have adequate support and resources to implement, monitor and take corrective action to comply with this protocol

All staff providing care must

- show their understanding by applying the infection prevention and control principles in this protocol
- communicate the infection prevention and control practices to be carried out by colleagues, those being cared for, relatives and visitors, without breaching confidentiality
- report to line managers, document and action any deficits in knowledge, resources, equipment and facilities or incidents that may result in transmitting infection including near misses
- not provide care while at risk of transmitting infectious agents to others; if in doubt consult line manager, occupational health and wellbeing or the infection prevention team (IPT)
- inform the IPT of any outbreaks or serious incidents relating to this protocol Infection Prevention Team must
- inform RWT, NHS England, Midlands Region and UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and Black Country integrated care board of any outbreaks or serious incidents

### 3.0 Procedure/Guidelines Detail / Actions

- COVID-19 treatment guidance can be located in the adult medical guidelines section on the Royal Wolverhampton Trust (RWT) Intranet – <u>sub section of COVID-19 treatment</u> <u>guidelines</u> and <u>Treatment Pathways for the inpatient management of acute COVID-19</u>
- PPE guidance can be located in the Infection Prevention Manual or on the RWT Intranet
- Flowchart for admissions through Emergency Department and Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) is available to follow – <u>Appendix 1</u>
- ICCU Respiratory Guidance <u>Appendix 2</u>
- Symptoms of a respiratory tract infection, including COVID-19 <u>Appendix 3</u>
- Clinical Haematology / Oncology Respiratory Guidance <u>Appendix 4</u>
- Inpatient Screening Guide for COVID-19 <u>Appendix 5</u>
- Poster available informing staff of when you need to wear a face mask Appendix 6
- Flu Contacts in AMU Appendix 7
- Aerosol generating Procedures (AGPs) <u>Appendix 8</u>
- Action card for the stepdown of PCR positive COVID-19 patients or clinically diagnosed COVID-19 to resolved – <u>Appendix 9</u>
- Action card for stepdown of Influenza positive patients to resolved <u>Appendix 10</u>
- Poster available for which clean do you require on discharge <u>Appendix 11</u>

Disclaimer:

Our recommendations are based on current national guidelines and relevant evidence-base. This guideline helps inform clinicians clinical judgement. However, clinicians will consider the trade-off between the benefits and harms of an intervention before making a clinical decision.

- Flowchart: Requisition for powered air-purifying Respirator (PAPR) Appendix 12
- Mask Fit testers are available in most clinical areas. If a new fit tester is required, please contact <a href="mailto:rwh-tr.clinicalskillsdepartment@nhs.net">rwh-tr.clinicalskillsdepartment@nhs.net</a>
- Respiratory Hoods can be obtained from the Medical Equipment Library
- <u>Tuberculosis (TB) Guidelines</u>

#### 4.0 Equipment Required

Appropriate personal protective equipment, please refer to IP12 Standard Precautions

#### 5.0 Training

No training required

#### 6.0 Financial Risk Assessment

Does the implementation of this document require any additional Capital resources	No
Does the implementation of this document require additional revenue resources	No
Does the implementation of this document require additional manpower	No
Does the implementation of this document release any manpower costs through a change in practice	No
Are there additional staff training costs associated with implementing this document which cannot be delivered through current training programs or allocated training times for staff.	No
Other comments	

#### 7.0 Equality Impact Assessment

An equality analysis has been carried out and it indicates that:

Tick	Options
	A. There is no impact in relation to Personal Protected Characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010.

#### 8.0 Maintenance

This protocol will be reviewed at least annually by the Senior Matron Infection Prevention or following any national guidance.

Disclaimer:

Our recommendations are based on current national guidelines and relevant evidence-base. This guideline helps inform clinicians clinical judgement. However, clinicians will consider the trade-off between the benefits and harms of an intervention before making a clinical decision.

#### 9.0 Communication and Training

The protocol will be disseminated to all Trust staff via e mail and it will also be available on the Intranet.

#### 10.0 Audit Process

No formal audit will be completed.

Compliance will be monitored through IPCG following outbreaks or serious incidents

Criterion	Lead	Monitoring method	Frequency	Evaluation
Number of outbreaks or serious incidents recorded relating to respiratory illnesses	Senior Matron Infection Prevention	Outbreak reporting	Monthly	Infection Prevention and Control Group

#### 11.0 References:

IP01 Hand Hygiene

**IP12 Standard Precautions** 

Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

<u>COVID-19: information and advice for health and care professionals - GOV.UK</u> (www.gov.uk)

C1676-National-Infection-Prevention-and-Control-Manual-for-England-version-2-2.pdf

Tuberculosis (TB) Guidelines

### Part A - Document Control

Procedure/ Guidelines number and version PRT04 Version 1.2	Title of Procedure/ Guidelines Respiratory Illnesses Protocol	Status: Final		Author: Senior Matron Infection Prevention For Trust-wide Procedures and Guidelines Chief Officer Sponsor: Director of Nursing	
Version / Amendment	Version	Date	Author	Reason	
History	1	April 2023	Senior Matron Infection Prevention	This is a new protocol for all RWT staff to follow in relation to respiratory illnesses	
	1.1	July 2023	Senior Matron Infection Prevention	Hyperlink updated within section 3.0 for sub section of COVID-19 treatment guidelines and inclusion of hyperlink for Treatment Pathways for the inpatient management of acute COVID-19	
	1.2	July 2023	Senior Matron Infection Prevention	Updates and revisions made to appendices associated with protocol	
Consultation Gr	ents: All staff groups roup / Role Titles and Da biologists, Consultant Re				
Name and date of group where reviewed		Trust Policy Group – April 2023 Trust Policy Group Virtual Approval – July 2023 – V1.1 and V1.2			
Name and date of final approval committee(if trust-wide document)/ Directorate or other locally approved committee (if local document)		Trust Manage	ement Committe	e – April 2023	
Date of Procedu	Date of Procedure/Guidelines issue		July 2023		
<b>Review Date and Frequency</b> (standard review frequency is 3 yearly unless otherwise indicated – see section 3.8.1 of Attachment 1)		April 2024 (At least annually or following any national guidance update)			

**Training and Dissemination:** The protocol will be disseminated to all RWT staff and will be available for reference on the Intranet.

To be read in conjunction with:

IP01 Hand Hygiene

IP12 Standard Precautions

Initial Equality Impact Assessment: Completed Yes Full Equality Impact assessment (as required): Completed NA If you require this document in an alternative format e.g., larger print please contact Policy Management Officer 85887 for Trust- wide documents or your line manager or Divisional Management office for Local documents.

Contact for Review	Senior Matron Infection Prevention	
Monitoring arrangements	Monthly outbreak/serious incident data at IPCG	

**Document summary/key issues covered.** Respiratory viruses include seasonal, avian, and pandemic influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and severe acute respiratory syndromes (SARS).

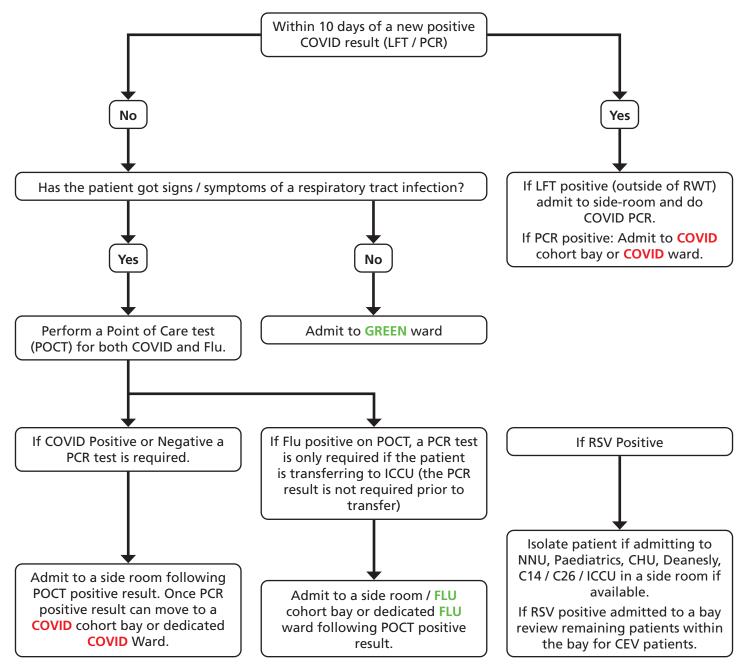
COVID-19, along with many other respiratory infections such as influenza (flu), can spread easily and cause serious illness in some people. You may be infected with a respiratory virus such as COVID-19 and not have any symptoms but still pass infection onto others.

The common respiratory viruses are seasonal influenza and RSV. They can infect any age group although the severe complications of such infection are often restricted to children and the elderly. These viruses are most commonly transmitted by airborne droplets or nasal secretions and can lead to a wide spectrum of illness. In the UK many of these viruses are seasonal in their activity and tend to circulate at higher levels during the winter months. The risk of catching or passing on COVID-19 is greatest when someone who is infected is physically close to or sharing an enclosed and/or poorly ventilated space with other people. When someone with a respiratory viral infection such as COVID-19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release small particles that contain the virus which causes the infection. These particles can be breathed in or can come into contact with the eyes, nose, or mouth. The particles can also land on surfaces and be passed from person to person via touch.

Key words for intranet	
searching purposes	

# The Royal Wolverhampton

# **Flowchart for admissions through ED / SDEC**



In **immunosuppressed patients** uncertainty exists around duration of viral shedding. Therefore in asymptomatic immunosuppressed patients > 14 days post initial diagnosis, re-test with COVID PCR testing and allocate bed based on results. Admit to sideroom if needed to avoid delay.



### Appendix 2

# ICCU Respiratory Guidance

A patient must be accepted on clinical need and not await an appropriate bed.

Therefore, for RSV, Flu A and B and COVID, the following principles may help when deciding where to place patients on ICCU.

- 1. For a patient with a respiratory virus, ideally, they should be in a side room, if one is available.
- 2. If there are insufficient side rooms, then patients with RSV can be nursed in the bay (whether intubated or not). They should be at least a bed space away from any patients who are more vulnerable e.g., on immunosuppression, or chronic respiratory disease.
- 3. If there are still insufficient side-rooms, then any patient with influenza (A or B) who is intubated and ventilated, can be moved into a bay with other non-flu patients. NB if they are to be extubated, they should either be moved into a side-room or should be resolved (see below).
- 4. Patients with COVID should be nursed in a side-room unless they are in a cohort COVID bay. While it may not make much logical/scientific sense to treat this virus differently to flu, the ongoing external scrutiny of this virus means that, for now at least, we will not put COVID patients in a bay with non-covid patients, even if intubated and ventilated.
- 5. Patients with Flu A who are not intubated but still deemed infectious, can be cohorted with other Flu A patients, but not with flu B patients (or patients who are dually infected with COVID and flu). A similar principle applies to Flu B patients.
- 6. Flu resolved patients: a minimum of 5 days after symptom onset with no fever for 24 hours and/either asymptomatic or improving symptoms.
- 7. The same cleaning (amber clean) is required for all of the viruses.

## Appendix 3:

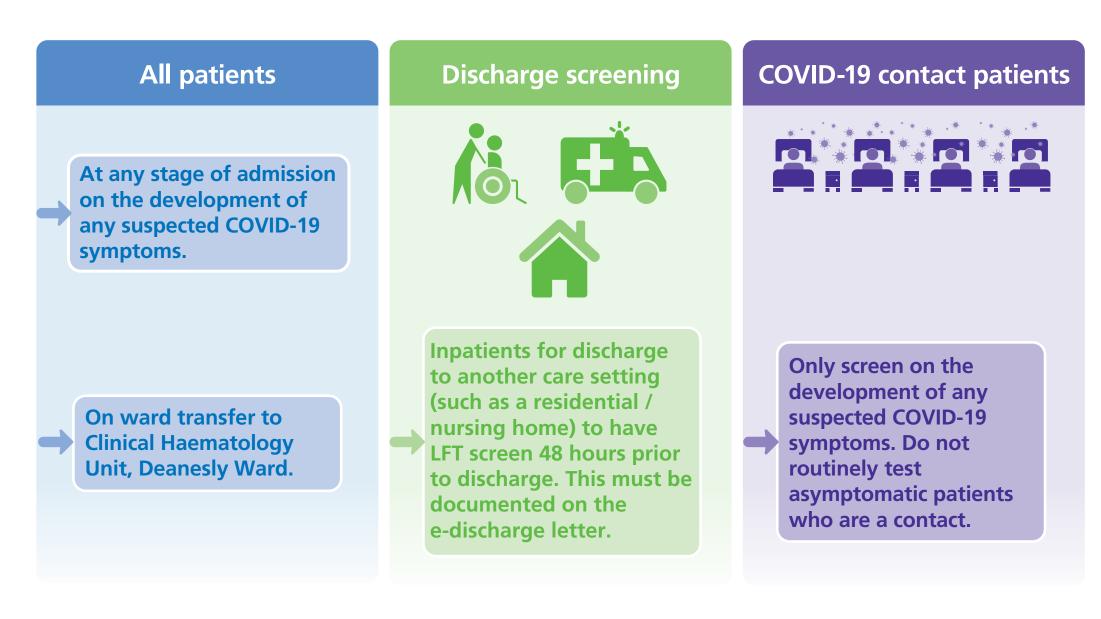
# Symptoms of a respiratory tract infection, including COVID-19 can include:

- continuous cough
- high temperature, fever or chills
- loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- shortness of breath
- unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
- muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
- headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

# Inpatient screening guide for COVID-19

The Royal Wolverhampton







# When you need to wear a fluid resistant surgical face mask

(this applies to all areas including inpatients, outpatients and community settings)

When caring for a patient who is suspected or confirmed of having an active respiratory infection or droplet transmissible infection\* to protect staff from exposure.



On personal risk assessment.



If a patient or colleague requests you to wear a mask.



When caring for patients in outbreak situations involving an infection spread via droplet route.



Emergency Portals. When assessing for symptoms of respiratory tract infections.\* including ED, SDEC of all specialties, PAU, Cardiology, Maternity triage, UTC, Phoenix.

Face mask to be changed / removed after contact and **NOT** to be used sessionally.

# When not to wear a fluid resistant surgical mask



\*Examples of infections transmitted via droplets: SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), Influenza A/B, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Bacterial Meningitis, Diphtheria, Mumps.

Refer to IP10 Isolation Policy for Infectious Diseases and IP12 Standard Precautions.

### Appendix 7

# Flu Contacts in AMU

- Temporarily close the bay to new admissions.
- Assess all patients who have been in contact with a confirmed flu case in the bay and prescribe prophylactic dose of Tamiflu, once daily for 10 days following a medical assessment. Patient should have recent LFTs, U&Es and weight.
- Contacts can be moved to bays in other wards if required as part of their care or discharged once assessed for Tamiflu. Prophylactic Tamiflu should continue for 10 days. Note, **patients returning to their own home or care home must take Tamiflu with TTOs.**
- A confirmed case must be moved to a side room with ensuite facilities or a flu cohort bay following advice from the Infection Prevention Team or Microbiology.
- Do not cohort flu and COVID-19 positive patients together
- Bed spaces must be cleaned with a hypochlorite solution and the curtains changed.
- The bay can then reopen.

#### Flu Contacts in other wards

- Temporarily close the bay to new admissions.
- Move positive flu patient to a side room with ensuite facilities or a cohort flu bay following advice from Infection Prevention or Microbiology.
- Do not cohort flu and COVID-19 positive patients together
- Assess all patients who have been in contact with a confirmed flu case in the bay and prescribe prophylactic Tamiflu once daily for 10 days following a medical assessment. Patient should have recent LFTs, U&Es and weight.
- All contacts to be isolated for 72 hours to observe for signs/symptoms of flu.
- Send a Flu swab if a contact patient develops any signs/symptoms of flu.

- Contacts require 72 hours in isolation or a cohort bay and be asymptomatic before considering moving the patient from isolation or a cohort bay. Prophylactic Tamiflu should continue for 10 days.
- If no further cases are identified after 72 hours and patients are asymptomatic no additional screening is required and the bay can re-open.

#### Definitions.

Flu contact: a person who has close contact with another person with infectious influenza e.g., shared the same bay.

Tamiflu: flu prophylaxis.

Confirmed case: a patient with laboratory confirmed influenza from a nose or throat swab.

#### Appendix 8:

#### Aerosol generating procedures.

Aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) are medical procedures that can result in the release of aerosols from the respiratory tract. The criteria for an AGP are a high risk of aerosol generation and increased risk of transmission (from patients with a known or suspected respiratory infection).

The list of medical procedures that are considered to be aerosol generating and associated with an increased risk of respiratory transmission is:

- awake\* bronchoscopy (including awake tracheal intubation)
- **awake\* ear, nose, and throat** (ENT) airway procedures that involve respiratory suctioning
- awake\* upper gastro-intestinal endoscopy
- **dental procedures** (using high speed or high frequency devices, for example ultrasonic scalers/high speed drills)
- induction of sputum
- respiratory tract suctioning\*\*
- **surgery or post-mortem procedures** (like high speed cutting / drilling) likely to produce aerosol from the respiratory tract (upper or lower) or sinuses.
- tracheostomy procedures (insertion or removal).

\*Awake including 'conscious' sedation (excluding anaesthetised patients with secured airway)

\*\* The available evidence relating to respiratory tract suctioning is associated with ventilation. In line with a precautionary approach, open suctioning of the respiratory tract regardless of association with ventilation has been incorporated into the current AGP list. Only open suctioning beyond the oro-pharynx is currently considered an AGP. Oral/pharyngeal suctioning is not considered an AGP.

National infection prevention and control manual for England

## Appendix 9:

The Royal Wolverhampton

NHS Trust

SARS-CoV-2 Step down criteria

ACTION C	ARD	Stepdown of PCR positive COVID-19 patients or clinically diagnosed COVID-19 to resolved		
OFFICERS THIS ROLI	E TO UNDERTAKE	Capacity managers, medical and senior nursing staff		
	Patients previously po criteria outlined below	sitive or diagnosed clinically COVID-19 positive meeting		
Pat	ient must meet <u>ALL</u> of th	e following criteria		
1. > 5	days since symptom ons	set or positive swab		
2. Afe	brile for >48hrs			
3. Abs	sence of immunosuppres	sion*		
leul def che	* <b>Severe immunosuppression</b> : Acute or chronic leukaemia/lymphoma/myeloma/immunosuppression due to HIV/AIDS. Cellular immune deficiencies; allogenic/autologous stem cell transplant < 24 months; chemotherapy/radiotherapy < 6 months; monoclonal biologics <12 months; significant immunosuppressed therapy <3 months			
4. Clir	nical improvement			
5. Abs	Absence of hypoxia (i.e., SpO2 has returned to patients own baseline)			
Note: post v enhanced p	•	r several weeks and is not a reason in isolation to continue		
Patients req	uiring AGP procedures n	nust be nursed in side rooms or designated bay		
for 90 days	from first positive resu	e patients who meet this criteria do not need rescreening Ilt. Should a patient who meets this criteria inadvertently e disregarded unless any of the above criteria applies		
NUMBER	IUMBER ACTION			
		D-19 positive patients to stepdown as a resolved case at ust be completed by medical/nursing staff.		
2 If patient can be classed as resolved, patient may move to a COVID COVID area		ed as resolved, patient may move to a COVID or non-		
3	3 Teletracking must be updated to resolved to ensure Capacity team a of progress and also prior to transferring to West Park or Cannock Cl Hospital			
4				

## Appendix 9:

The Royal Wolverhampton

SARS-CoV-2 Step down criteria

5	Do not rescreen patients unless new symptoms develop within 90 days of first positive result
6	For previous positive patients transferring to Care Homes or other healthcare facilities LFDs can be used within 48hrs of transfer

## Appendix 10:

Influenza Step down criteria

The Royal Wolverhampton

ACTIC	N CARD	Stepdown of Influenza patients to resolved	
OFFICERS TO UNDERTAKE THIS ROLE		Capacity managers, medical and senior nursing staff	
PROM	PT: Patients previously po	bsitive meeting stepdown criteria outlined below	
	Patient must meet <u>ALL</u> of the following criteria		
1.	>5 days since symptom onset or positive swab		
2.	Afebrile for >48hrs		
3.	Absence of immunosuppres	ssion*	
	* <b>Severe immunosuppression</b> : Acute or chronic leukaemia/lymphoma/myeloma/immunosuppression due to HIV/AIDS. Cellular immune deficiencies; allogenic/autologous stem cell transplant < 24 months; chemotherapy/radiotherapy < 6 months; monoclonal biologics <12 months; significant immunosuppressed therapy <3 months		
4.	Clinical improvement		
5.	Absence of hypoxia (i.e., SpO2 has returned to patients own baseline)		
	oost viral cough can persist fo ed precautions.	r several weeks and is not a reason in isolation to continue	
Patient	s requiring AGP procedures r	nust be nursed in side rooms or designated bay	
NUMB	ER ACTION		
1		nza positive patients to stepdown as a resolved case at ust be completed by medical/nursing staff.	
2 If patient can be classed a or a green ward		sed as resolved, patient may move to a Flu cohort area	
3 Teletracking must be updated to resolved to ensure Capacity team are of progress and also prior to transferring to West Park or Cannock Cha Hospital			
4			
5 Do not rescreen patients unless new symptoms develop within 90 d positive result		ents unless new symptoms develop within 90 days of first	

# Which clean do you require on discharge?

# **TYPE: Deprox<sup>™</sup> HPV** (Suitable for use in VACANT rooms only)

#### **Required following discharge of patients infected with:**

- Clostridium difficile
- Norovirus
- Multi-resistant Acinetobacter
- Vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE) (CHU only)
- CPE
- Any area following sewage leaks/spills

#### Any other infection/areas requested by Infection Prevention

#### **Pre Cleaning Process**

- Strip bed and remove all linen and towels into a red soluble bag
- Check patient locker is empty and dispose of any remaining items including patient consumables and any medication
- Clean mattress and check for strike-through
- Ensure air mattresses are inflated
- Clean air mattress
- Remove all crockery, jugs and glasses
- Clean the patient suction unit
- Clean white board
- Clean clinical equipment and leave in the room
- Dispose of sharps box
- Call details at bottom of poster to request a Red Clean

### **TYPE: Chlorine-based agent**

AMBER

CLEA

Required following discharge of patients infected with:

- MRSA
- RSV
- ESBL producing organisms
- VRE
- FLU -COVID -19
- Condition-related Diarrhoea
- Tuberculosis

Any other infection/areas requested by Infection **Prevention** 

#### NURSING RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Pre Cleaning Process**

- Strip bed and remove all linen and towels into a red soluble bag
- Check patient locker is empty and dispose of any remaining items including patient consumables and any medication
- Clean mattress (for air mattresses attach decontamination certificate ,deflate mattress, bag and remove from room)
- and check for strike-through
- Remove all crockery, jugs and glasses
- Clean the patient suction unit
- Clean white board
- Clean clinical equipment and leave in the room
- Dispose of sharps box
- Call contact details at bottom of poster to request an Amber Clean

#### Pre Cleaning Process

infections

- Strip bed and remove all linen and towels into white laundry bag
- Dispose of any remaining patient consumables
- Check patient locker is empty and dispose of any remaining items including patient consumables and any medication

**TYPE: Detergent solution/wipe** 

Required following discharge of patients with no known

- Remove all crockery, jugs and glasses
- Clean white board
- Dispose of sharps box
- Clean patient locker, bed table, entertainment system

#### Between hours of 8:00pm and 11:00am Monday - Friday and 7:00pm - 2:00pm Saturday - Sunday nurses to:

- Clean mattress and check for strike-through
- Clean the patient suction unit
- Clean clinical equipment
- Call contact details at bottom of poster to request a Green Clean

#### **Post Process**

- Re stock consumables
- Put room back to normal
- DOMESTIC CLEANING RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Pre Process: Detergent and chlorine solution**

- Remove and dispose of curtains
- Remove any exposed paper products e.g. hand towels
- Clean the patient bed frame
- Clean all high and low surfaces
- Clean patient locker(inside and out), bed table, chair, entertainment system
- Remove all waste and tag, clean waste receptacle

- Re stock consumables

#### **Pre Process: Detergent**

Monday - Friday between hours of 11:00am - 8:00pm **Domestics to:** 

Saturday - Sunday between hours of 2:00pm - 7:00pm bed team to:

- Clean the patient suction unit
- Clean clinical equipment
- Clean patient locker, bed table, entertainment system
- Clean all sockets and switches
- Remove all waste and tag, clean waste receptacle
- Clean all areas of the en-suite, wipe over sanitary ware
- Mop floor
- **Post Process**
- Clean all sockets and switches • Clean all areas of the en-suite
- Mop floor

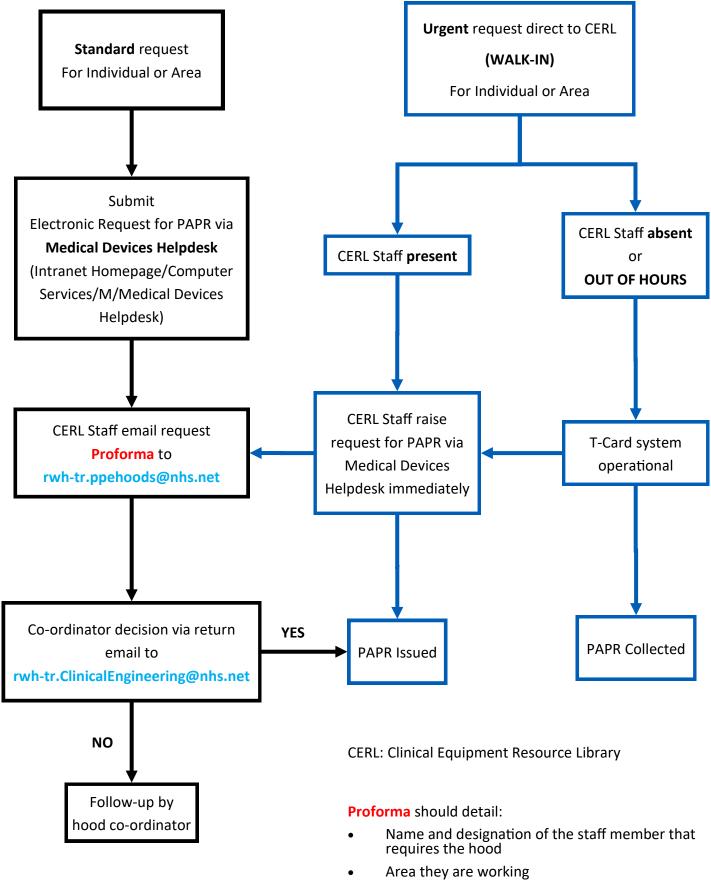
#### **Post Process**

#### Pre Process: Detergent and chlorine solution & HPV

- Fully extend and wipe curtains
- Empty hand towel dispensers and remove exposed toilet roll - Fully enclosed toilet roll may remain in the room
- Clean the patient bed frame and mattress (air mattresses are nursing responsibility as above )
- Clean all high and low surfaces
- Clean patient locker (inside and out), bed table, chair, entertainment system
- Clean all sockets and switches
- Remove all waste and tag, clean waste receptacle
- Wall wash to hand height Wipe Blinds



# FLOWCHART: REQUISITION FOR POWERED AIR-PURIFIED RESPIRATOR (PAPR)



Contact details