

**☑ Talking Points**

May 14, 2020

*This message is for the Bozeman Health leadership team from Kallie Kujawa, system director, quality and safety.*

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**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Standardization and Conservation in a Pandemic****Here's what's happening...**

The United States remains in a State of Emergency. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will continue to remain in short supply throughout the country during this State of Emergency. Bozeman Health continues to be thoughtful with the limited supply of PPE that is allocated to us each month while keeping staff and patient safety our top priority. A risk assessment was completed by the PPE taskforce to determine how to provide staff with appropriate countermeasures based on their individual work environment until the global supply chains are reliable in meeting our demands. Each department has a custom PPE plan which will be re-evaluated weekly based on community transmission and the plan may be altered to support the needs of staff, patients and the enterprise for remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Risk can be assessed using the following formula: Risk = (threat \* vulnerability \* probability) /countermeasures.

In this scenario:

- *Threat* is the likelihood of encountering a patient who is shedding SARS-CoV-2.
- *Vulnerability* is the exposure, based on proximity and procedures performed.
- *Probability* is the amount of time spent in close contact with patients.

*Countermeasures* are the processes put in place to reduce the likelihood of acquiring COVID-19.

Examples of the most effective countermeasures are:

- Frequent and thorough handwashing
- Maintaining social distance whenever possible
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including eye protection, exam gloves, gowns, and masks with filtration

Additional countermeasures in effect at Bozeman Health include prioritizing essential services, limiting visitors, door screening, self-monitoring, and testing patients prior to high risk procedures. Our universal face covering policy also ensures increased source control of potentially contagious respiratory secretions.

**Here's what you need to do...**

With our current supply levels and ongoing supply chain disturbances, we must continue to consider alternative PPE in order to serve the community. We can increase safety by practicing extended use of masks as opposed to re-use, see *Reusing a PPE Mask or Face Covering* policy on MIND for clarification.

There are three kinds of PPE Masks (masks with filtration).

- *406 Masks* are injection molded and use the same filter material as surgical masks. 406 Masks can be wiped clean to allow both extended use and re-use after cleaning and filters can be changed as needed.

- *Cloth masks* have a HEPA filter insert that can be changed as needed and the mask can be laundered.
- *Surgical masks* must be used over surgical fields to prevent patient infections.

Global supply chain disruptions continue to prevent standardizing PPE Masks across the enterprise. Until our supply chain can meet our demand, Bozeman Health is promoting the extended use of masks in all areas where it is appropriate. Please reference the chart below to determine which mask is appropriate for your work area. Some departments may be present on more than one list, which means both mask types are approved in your area.

<b>406 Mask</b>			
<b>Criteria for Use:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking on and off frequently</li> <li>• Cross contamination potential – 4M’s can be cleaned between patients</li> <li>• In close contact with patients (&lt;6 feet) without other barriers (Plexiglas, etc.)</li> <li>• Fluid spray is a concern</li> <li>• Logistical feasibility (primarily refers to cloth masks for off campus sites)</li> </ul>			
<b>Departments</b>			
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>Retail</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Ambulatory</b>
Emergency Department	b2 MicroCare	EVS	AMI
Imaging (CT, XRAY, NM, US)	b2 Urgent Care Belgrade	Lab (Phlebotomy)	Sleep Center/PFT Lab
Periop & PACU	b2 Urgent Care Main	Lab 19th	Viral Triage Clinic
Spiritual Care		Pharmacy	Viral Specimen Collection
		Respiratory Therapy	

<b>Cloth Mask with Filter</b>			
<b>Criteria for Use:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In close contact with patients (&lt;6 feet) without other barriers (Plexiglas, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Use face shield if splash anticipated</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
<b>Departments</b>			
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>Retail</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Ambulatory</b>
BSMC ED/IP	b2 Urgent Care Belgrade	Cafeteria	BSMC Clinics
Emergency Department		Entrance Greeters	Medical Specialty Clinics
Endoscopy		EVS	Primary Care Clinics
ICU & PCU		Hillcrest – all levels	Procedural Specialty Clinics
Imaging (CT, XRAY, NM, US)		Information Desk	Rehabilitation
Family Birth Center		Palliative Care	Sleep Center/PFT Lab
Medical Unit & Respiratory Unit		Pharmacy	Viral Specimen Collection
Periop and PACU		Phlebotomy (lab)	
Surgical Unit		Respiratory Therapy	
		Cafeteria	

<b>Disposable Masks</b>	
<b>Criteria for Use:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required for Sterility</li> <li>• Contraindication to 4M or Cloth mask with filter</li> </ul>	
<b>Departments</b>	
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>General</b>
Cath and Vascular Lab	Other procedural settings (for sterile procedures)
Interventional Radiology	

Sterile Processing Department	
Surgery (intraop)	
<b>Face Covering</b>	
<b>Criteria for Use:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PPE not required</li> </ul>	
<b>Departments</b>	
Use enterprise wide for source control in non-patient care departments	
Examples: Biomed, Engineering, IS, Quality, Main Lab (this list is <u>not</u> all inclusive)	

**Questions or comments?** Please email [IncidentCommand@bozemanhealth.org](mailto:IncidentCommand@bozemanhealth.org).