



PPE Recommendations during Alert Level 5 February 14, 2021 (subject to change)

COVID -19

Memo from Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) & Occupational Health & Safety

Effective immediately for the **Central Health Region**:

PPE Update:

A **face shield and mask** must be worn during all client/patient encounters in all outpatient and community settings, Emergency rooms, Intensive Care Units, Paramedicine, and case rooms. Face shields are to be changed in between each patient encounter for suspect or confirmed cases.

For all other inpatient areas, a **face shield and mask** must be worn during all client/patient encounters pending admission COVID-19 swab results. If the client has a negative swab result, staff can use their Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) to determine what PPE is required.

COVID-19 assessment and treatment units/facilities are to continue established PPE processes.

Face shields are to be changed in between each client/patient encounter for suspect or confirmed cases.

Face Shield Ordering Information:

Face shields are available in stores & can be ordered using normal ordering procedures.

The Ordering|Stock # for face shields is 52600 for all stores departments

All healthcare workers are advised to continue using the PCRA to determine the appropriate PPE for that particular encounter.

In addition to the above changes, there is new direction regarding rated (ASTM level) masks required for both health care workers and clients/patients/essential visitors.

Effective immediately:

Health care workers who work with clients/patients/residents are required to wear a level 2 or 3 rated medical mask.

Health care workers **not** providing direct client care while in the health care setting and those who work without any contact with patients or patient care areas are required to wear a level 1 rated medical mask.

Clients/patients/essential visitors will be provided a level 1 rated medical mask upon entering the health care facility.

For more information, please refer to the provincial document which can be found here: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/NL-PPE-guidelines-Feb-11-2021update.pdf>

As information, epidemiology and prevalence evolves, this direction will be reassessed and adjusted accordingly.

IPAC

Tracy MacDonald

Manager, Infection Prevention and Control
and Safety Lead

tracy.macdonald@centralhealth.nl.ca
centralhealth.nl.ca

OH&S

Mark Blackwood

Environmental Health

[mark.blackwood@cen](mailto:mark.blackwood@centralhealth.nl.ca)

Michelle Hoffe

Infection Control Coordinator (interim)

michelle.hoffe@centralhealth.nl.ca