

March 14, 2020

Change to Isolation Precaution Procedures for COVID-19

As communities worldwide address COVID-19 outbreaks, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) continue to identify new best practices to inform the guidance to healthcare providers. Based on the updated recommendations of the CDC and WHO, Munson Healthcare has modified isolation precaution procedures **for suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19.**

If the patient **DOES NOT** need any aerosol-generating procedures (such as ventilation, BiPAP/CPAP, endotracheal intubation, suction, sputum induction, bronchoscopy, nebulization, pulmonary function testing, bag-valve mask ventilation or chest percussion therapy), use **droplet contact precautions.** This requires the use of a surgical mask, gown, gloves and a face shield or goggles. This approach is consistent with current guidelines and practices of other large Michigan medical centers.

If the patient **DOES** need any type of aerosol-generating procedure, use **airborne contact precautions.** This requires the use of an N95 respirator with eye protection or PAPR (Powered Air Purifying Respirator) or CAPR (Controlled Air Purifying Respirator) along with the use of gown and gloves, and should be done in a negative pressure room.

