

Appendix C: Physician Information Sheet: Respiratory Virus, Prevention and Control

- Any patient admitted to the Johns Hopkins Hospital for whom there is clinical suspicion of respiratory virus infection will have a specimen sent to the laboratory for respiratory virus testing. Additional testing requirements are dependent on the extent of respiratory virus activity in the community and are outlined in Appendix A.
- Droplet precautions are required for all hospitalized patients known or suspected to be infected with a respiratory virus. Droplet precautions require gown and gloves to enter the patient's room and a mask with eye protection within 6 feet of the patient. Prescription eye glasses are not considered adequate eye protection. Duration of isolation varies based on suspect/lab confirmed status, age and immune status of the patient and degree of respiratory virus activity in the community. Details are included in Appendix A.
- For aerosol generating procedures (e.g., bronchoscopy, sputum induction, intubation and extubation, open suctioning, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and autopsies), a fit-tested N-95 with eye protection or a PAPR are required for all influenza positive patients and until influenza is ruled out.
- All persons with direct patient contact or working in clinical areas shall receive the influenza vaccine or complete a declination annually. Occupational Health Services provides the vaccine free of charge.
- Any person with direct patient contact or working in clinical areas who does not receive the current influenza vaccine must wear a surgical mask when within 6 feet of a patient. The dates of the mask requirement will be determined by HEIC and based on influenza activity in the local community.
- All personnel with respiratory symptoms and fever must stay home.
- Afebrile personnel with respiratory symptoms must wear a surgical mask during patient contact (within 6 feet).
- During periods of increase RSV and influenza activity, a multi-stage prevention and control plan will be implemented. The details of these enhanced activities are included in Appendix A and will be posted on the HEIC website (www.hopkinsmedicine.org/heic).