

## Patient Admission Process Updated May 21, 2020

In an effort to ensure the highest safety for our staff and community, and in alignment with updated CDC guidance, we are implementing the following process starting at admission for patients:

- All Patient Access nurses will bring a bag of surgical masks to the admission visit. Bags of 5 masks are available for pick up in the office. When arriving at a visit, the Patient Access nurse will provide the masks to the family and ask family to put on the mask for the entire visit.
- During the visit all staff should be maintaining social distancing, remaining more than 6 feet apart except for direct patient assessment.
- If the patient can tolerate a mask, they should have it on during the assessment and any time they are closer than 6 feet to the nurse.
- The direct care portion of the patient assessment should be as short as possible while allowing the patient to be assessed.
- The nurse may wear a surgical mask or an N95 mask.
- Goggles should be worn for any time that is spent closer than 6 feet. Therefore, eye protection needs to be readily available during the entire visit.
- All PPE must be worn for aerosol-generating procedures such as nebulizers and suctioning.

Limiting exposure time and maintaining distance of greater than 6 feet along with source control (wearing of masks) greatly reduces the risks of exposure to COVID-19. Should your patient require additional precautions, you should be wearing the additional PPE required for the visit.

For currently admitted patients, team staff should verify family have masks prior to making patient visit when calling to screen. If masks are not available in the home, provide family with masks. Masks may be obtained in bags of 5 by coming to the office.