

Duke Health Policy for Providers Managing Cardiopulmonary Arrest and RRT in COVID-19 Patients

It is anticipated that a subset of patients under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 or who have confirmed disease will experience an RRT or cardiopulmonary arrest while in our care. The risks to healthcare providers from viral aerosolization during resuscitation (particularly intubation) is significant.

Policy

Healthcare providers responding to a cardiopulmonary arrest or RRT for a COVID-19 Patient Under Investigation (PUI) or COVID-19 positive patient will don appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) prior to entering the room to initiate resuscitative efforts. Specifically:

1. All providers will don N95 masks or PAPR, eye protection, gown, gloves, and shoe covers
2. The provider performing intubation will preferentially don PAPR
 - a. An N95 is an acceptable alternative if PAPR is not available
3. During intubation, those not performing the intubation will move away from the patient and resume resuscitative efforts once cleared by the provider that intubation is complete
4. If the patient is not in an intensive care setting and is to be transported:
 - a. Follow the guidance document entitled *Transport of Patients on Special Airborne Contact Precautions*
 - b. If the patient is intubated, s/he should be transported on a portable ventilator (if available) and should not be transported using an ambu bag. If a transport ventilator is not available, an appropriate filter should be placed between the endotracheal tube and the ambu bag.
 - c. Those participating in the resuscitation will serve as the transport team. Providers who will provide direct patient care during transport should utilize the same PPE as worn during the resuscitation, and must not touch other surfaces in the hospital environment other than the patient and the patient's care environment.
 - d. At least one member of the transport team must doff gown, gloves, and perform hand hygiene following standard procedures. This individual will be designated as the 'clean' individual to operate elevator buttons and door openers during transport.
5. Following completion of the resuscitation and/or transport, standard doffing procedures will apply.