

RSCH & PRH Theatres COVID-19 Guidelines- summary poster

Pre-operative

See Theatre Pathway Standard 2021 v1.0
(or Theatre Pathway High Prevalence 2021 v 1.0 if advised by IPC)

- At WHO brief discuss:¹
 - Each patient's 'Covid status' and anticipated Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs)
 - Theatre Aerosol Clearance Time (ACT5)
 - ACT5= time for 5 air changes, which will remove >99% of virus¹.
 - ACT5 depends on ventilation and is different for each theatre (discuss with theatre manager- if unknown, assume ACT5=15min).
 - staff plan for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including donning/doffing areas

Covid BSUH triage

HIGH: Triage questions/test +ve
MEDIUM: No test result available, or asymptomatic Covid exposure

Patient triaged low risk & negative test result (or patient recovered from Covid: 15-90 days post-onset & currently asymptomatic)

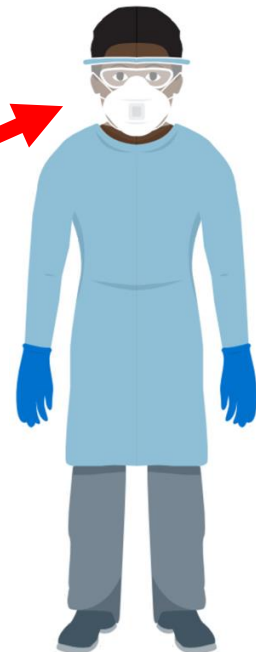
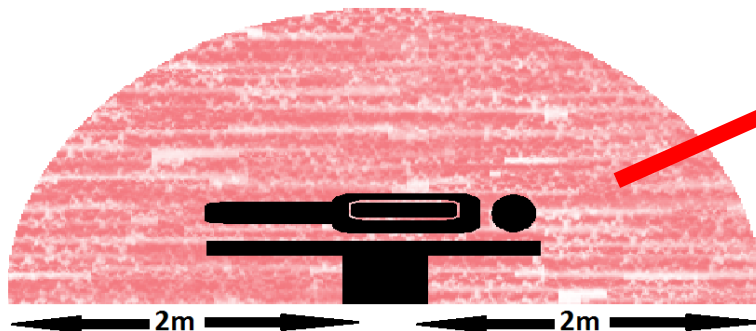
LOW risk

Standard precautions:

- AGP-PPE not recommended
- Recovery post-op
IPC may advise AGP-PPE for inpatients if local inpatient prevalence is high

Intra-operative PPE precautions for MEDIUM and HIGH risk

- Minimum PPE requirements in theatre²
 - Gloves, apron, fluid resistant surgical mask, face/eye protection
 - (Plus Gown if risk of splash or droplet contamination)
- Aerosol Generating Procedure PPE:²
 - Gloves, gown, FFP3 Respirator, face/eye protection (or PowerHood)
 - If either:
 - closer than 2m to patient during an AGP²**, or
 - entering 2m area after AGP but **within ACT5 Time**



- Donning and Doffing of PPE
 - Safe at any time, provided this is more than 2m from patient²
- Any potentially contaminated PPE must be doffed prior to theatre exit
- Meticulous hand hygiene is paramount

Post-operative MEDIUM and HIGH risk

- Recovery in theatre or suitable isolated area