

BILH Interim PPE for Hospitalized Patients with Respiratory Symptoms and/or Viral Infection including Influenza, RSV and COVID-19

During the fall and winter months, we generally see a greater variety of respiratory viruses than we have to date during the pandemic. With updates to some of the viral testing platforms at BILH, results will now be available for RSV that was not routinely included previously for most immunocompetent adults. In an effort not to use up private rooms unnecessarily, guidance for isolation of patients is provided below.

Note: At a minimum, all staff should wear a surgical mask and eye protection when entering any patient room with the addition of an N95 respirator for high risk procedures, regardless of viral testing results. The information provided below is in addition to or in place of this requirement.

	Virus/Symptoms ¹	Personal Protective Equipment and Cohorting	
		Immunocompetent Adult	Any Pediatric Patient or an Immunocompromised ^{2,3} Adult
No Diagnosis	Symptoms ¹ consistent with influenza-like illness, including COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N95 respirator • Eye Protection • Contact Precautions (gown, gloves) • Private room 	
Confirmed Diagnosis	COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N95 respirator • Eye Protection • Contact Precautions (gown, gloves) • Private room or cohort with another patient with COVID-19, if needed 	
	Influenza A/B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Droplet precautions • Eye Protection • Private room or cohort with another patient with the same influenza type (A or B) 	
	RSV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No isolation precautions needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Droplet precautions (surgical mask) • Contact precautions (gown, gloves) • Private room or cohort with another patient with RSV, if needed

Abbreviations: COVID-19=Coronavirus-2019, RSV=Respiratory Syncytial Virus

¹Symptoms include at least one of: Fever (>100.4 deg F) or feeling feverish, chills, body aches, sore throat, cough (new or worsening), shortness of breath (new or worsening), diarrhea (new or worsening) and loss of smell or taste

²Immunocompromised generally refers to hospitalized patients with oncologic conditions or those who are post-bone marrow or solid organ transplantation. Please see local institutional guidance for included inpatient units.

³Note that at a minimum a surgical mask and eye protection should be worn for all patient care during the pandemic