

UC Riverside, School of Medicine Policies and Procedures**Policy Title:** Ambulatory Exposure to Communicable Disease, Screening, Reporting, and Tracking**Policy Number:** 950-03-041

Responsible Officer:	Chief Medical Officer
Responsible Office:	Clinical Affairs
Origination Date:	12/2022
Date of Revision:	N/A
Scope:	UCR Health Ambulatory Clinical Locations

I. Policy Summary

To provide infection prevention practices, reporting, and tracking required guidelines to be followed at UCR Health Ambulatory Clinical Locations to prevent the risk of transmission to employees and patients. Focuses on the standard precautions (or higher) in the event of a suspected patient infection.

II. Definitions**A. Standard Precautions includeⁱ:**

1. Performing Hand Hygieneⁱⁱ
2. Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) whenever there is an expectation of possible exposure to infectious material – Policy [950-03-040 Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
3. Follow respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette principles
4. Ensure appropriate patient placement
5. Properly handle and properly clean and disinfect patient care equipment and instruments/devices. Clean and disinfects the environment appropriatelyⁱⁱⁱ
6. Handle materials, textiles, and laundry carefully
7. Follow safe injection practices^{iv}
8. Ensure healthcare worker safety including proper handling of needles and other sharps

B. “Communicable disease” means an illness caused by an infectious agent or its toxins that occurs through the direct or indirect transmission of the infectious agent or its products from an infected individual or via an animal, vector or the inanimate environment to a susceptible animal or human host, as defined by the CDC. Examples include COVID-19, Escherichia coli (E. coli), influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

C. PPE: Personal Protective Equipment – Policy [TBD](#)

D. CDC: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

E. CDHP: California Department of Public Health

ⁱ CDC Standard Precautions (cited 20, December 2022) <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>

ⁱⁱ UCR Hand Hygiene Policy https://medschoolcompliance.ucr.edu/sites/default/files/2019-10/950-03-014_hand_hygiene.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ UCR Cleaning and Decontamination of Equipment and Work Surfaces Policy [950-03-006 cleaning and decontamination of equipment and work surfaces.pdf \(ucr.edu\)](#)

^{iv} CDC Safe Injection Practices (cited 20, December 2022) <https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/cdcsrole.html>

III. Responsibilities

UCR Health employees.

IV. Procedures

A. Infection Control Practices

Practices should be applied by all clinical staff at UCR Health when providing patient care in order to prevent or reduce the risk of infection. PPE will be available at all UCR Health clinic locations.

1. Standard Precautions

- a. Use Standard Procedures for the care of all patients.
- b. Standard Precautions apply to: 1) blood; 2) all body fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat, regardless of whether or not they contain visible blood; 3) non-intact skin; and 4) mucous membranes. Standard Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in hospitals.

2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- a. Refer to PPE policy.

B. Screening for Communicable Diseases

Screening will be determined based on Riverside County Department of Public Health^v Advisories.

1. Scheduling Appointment Patient Screening

- a. To prevent transmission of communicable diseases, pre-appointment screening will be conducted with all patients when appointment is scheduled.
- b. If patient fails pre-screening, appointment will be Tele-Health Appointment.
- c. If patient passes pre-screening and is scheduled an in-person appointment, they are notified (at time of scheduling) to contact UCR Health if they develop new or unexplained symptoms within 48 hours of their appointment and/or test positive for a communicable disease.
 - i. If prior staff notified prior to check-in, appointment will be converted to Tele-Health

2. Patient Screening at Check-In

- a. Patients are required to wear face masks while in healthcare settings unless physical exam requires removal of face mask. Face mask should be immediately returned upon completion of the required physical examination. CDPH requirement ^{vi}.
 - i. Front desk staff will ask scripted pre-screening questions and document answers in Epic.

^v Riverside County Public Health Advisories <https://www.ruhealth.org/ph-providers>

^{vi} California Department of Public Health Communications <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/Office-of-Communications.aspx>

- ii. If patient fails pre-screening, the patient will be provided a medical grade mask to place over their existing face mask and should be roomed immediately to decrease risk of transmission to others. If patient is concerned with double masking, the patient may exit the building to change masks. This reduces risk for transmission.
- iii. Note: Employees may be provided additional requirements and training based on Riverside County Department of Public Health Advisory/guidance. If an exam room is unavailable risk mitigation strategies should be performed in the order below.
 - If an option, request the patient to wait in their vehicle until an exam room becomes available
 - Identify a private space within the clinic for the patient to wait until an exam room becomes available
 - Request the patient and their visitor(s) to sit a minimum of six feet away from others.
 - Signage should be posted throughout the clinic and in the exam room which notifies patients they must keep their face mask on, even if coughing or sneezing occurs.

C. Communicable Disease Reporting ^{vii}

[Title 17, California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) §2500, §2593, §2641.5- 2643.20, and §2800-2812 Reportable Diseases and Conditions *](#)

§ 2500. REPORTING TO THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY.

- § 2500(b) It shall be the duty of every health care provider, knowing of or in attendance on a case or suspected case of any of the diseases or condition listed below, to report to the local health officer for the jurisdiction where the patient resides. Where no health care provider is in attendance, any individual having knowledge of a person who is suspected to be suffering from one of the diseases or conditions listed below may make such a report to the local health officer for the jurisdiction where the patient resides.

- § 2500(c) The administrator of each health facility, clinic, or other setting where more than one health care provider may know of a case, a suspected case or an outbreak of disease within the facility shall establish and be responsible for administrative procedures to assure that reports are made to the local officer.

- § 2500(a)(14) "Health care provider" means a physician and surgeon, a veterinarian, a podiatrist, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, a registered nurse, a nurse midwife, a school nurse, an infection control practitioner, a medical examiner, a coroner, or a dentist.

D. Cleaning Routines

In the event a patient is confirmed to have a communicable disease at a UCR Health clinical location, the clinic manager will consult with key stakeholders to arrange proper cleaning and

^{vii} California Department of Public Health – Division of Communicable Disease Control
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/DCDC.aspx>

disinfection will be implemented based on CDC, CDPH, and Riverside County Department of Public Health recommendations.

E. Changes in Law and Guidance

In the event of a change in law, regulation, guidance, etc. notice will be provided and such change will be considered effective upon receipt. In the instance of any discrepancies between this policy and those updates will prevail until the policy can be updated to reflect those changes.

V. Forms/Instructions

Attachment A – PPE Instructions

Attachment B – Local Resources for Immediate Treatment

VI. Related Information

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/ETS.html>

VII. Revision History Not Applicable

Approvals:

COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (01/05/2023)

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1/5/2023 | 6:45 PM PST

DATE

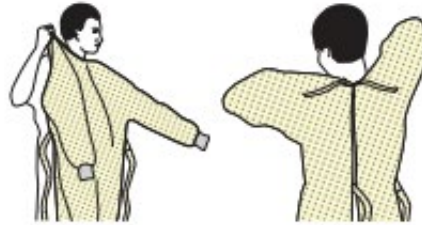
Attachment A

SEQUENCE FOR PUTTING ON PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

The type of PPE used will vary based on the level of precautions required, such as standard and contact, droplet or airborne infection isolation precautions. The procedure for putting on and removing PPE should be tailored to the specific type of PPE.

1. GOWN

- Fully cover torso from neck to knees, arms to end of wrists, and wrap around the back
- Fasten in back of neck and waist



2. MASK OR RESPIRATOR

- Secure ties or elastic bands at middle of head and neck
- Fit flexible band to nose bridge
- Fit snug to face and below chin
- Fit-check respirator



3. GOGGLES OR FACE SHIELD

- Place over face and eyes and adjust to fit



4. GLOVES

- Extend to cover wrist of isolation gown



USE SAFE WORK PRACTICES TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND LIMIT THE SPREAD OF CONTAMINATION

- Keep hands away from face
- Limit surfaces touched
- Change gloves when torn or heavily contaminated
- Perform hand hygiene



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Attachment B

Health Resources in Riverside County

- Hospitals
 - Riverside University Health System (RUHS)
 - Emergency Department
26520 Cactus Ave
Moreno Valley, CA 92555
951-486-5650 | Open 24 Hours
 - Riverside Community Hospital
 - Emergency Department
4445 Magnolia Ave
Riverside, CA 92501
951-788-3000 | Open 24 Hours
 - Kaiser Riverside Medical Center
 - Emergency Department
10800 Magnolia Ave
Riverside, CA 92505
951-353-2000 | Open 24 Hours
 - Parkview Community Hospital Medical Center
 - Emergency Department
3865 Jackson St
Riverside, CA 92503
951-688-2211 | Open 24 Hours
- Urgent Care Centers
 - Corona Community Health Center
 - 2813 S. Main Street
Corona, CA 92882
800-720-9553 | M-F 11am-8pm & Sat-Sun 8am-5pm
 - Riverside Neighborhood Health Center
 - 7140 Indiana Ave
Riverside, CA 92504
951-358-6000 |