Guiding Principles
- **COVID testing is required** prior to any procedure involving instrumentation of the airway, (and currently before all procedures in NY affiliates).
- Every attempt should be made to obtain a pre-procedure test result, but this should not delay or postpone urgent or emergent care.
- Airborne + Contact precautions for aerosol-generating procedures (AGP) that involve instrumentation of the airway when test is positive or unknown.
- Standard OR precautions are recommended for all staff (without a wait time to enter) in patients with a negative COVID test and no COVID symptoms.
- For all AG procedures not involving instrumentation of the airway, airway precautions are not needed in COVID negative or non-PUI with test pending.
- Change in community prevalence could lead to more rigid adherence to airborne precautions for AGPs in all patients regardless of test result.

PPE Guide
- Standard O.R. Precautions: Surgical mask, gloves, gown, hat, shoe covers, eye protection.
- Restricted O.R.: Standard Precautions, + closed toe, flat shoes, & if applicable shoe covers and eye protection.
- Airborne + Contact Precautions in O.R.: Fit tested N95 and face shield (or PAPR), gown, gloves, hat, shoe covers.
- When using airborne precautions, staff must conserve their N95 for the entire day and recycle at end of day.
- Patients should be screened for symptoms and fever upon entry to building. Procedure mask will be provided.

**Because all staff must be present for airway instrumentation**

**Post-operative placement:** Guided by test result. If test results unavailable and new COVID symptoms or high clinical suspicion is present, then place on COVID PUI unit and await results.

**Breathing +** COVID symptoms: 
- Patient is a PUI
- Airway for PUI
- Standard Precautions, + closed toe, flat shoes, & if applicable shoe covers and eye protection.
- Planned airway instrumentation should wait outside the room for 10 minutes after airway instrumentation before re-entering the room.

**COVID Symptoms or unable to assess:**
- Patient is a PUI
- Airway & Contact Precautions** with face shield for all personnel

**Emergent Procedure:**
- Insufficient time to await test results or to allow sufficient “wait time” for air exchange between intubation and remaining staff entering the room
- Urgent Procedure: assumes time allowed for appropriate “wait time” after intubation.

**Urgent Procedure:**
- Decision made to perform surgery or procedure. Asymptomatic COVID test to be obtained within a time proximity to the procedure as defined by state regulations and directives
- Pre-procedure instructions to self-isolate between test and procedure. Order routed to Patient Access & Service Center (PASC)

**Unavailable Result (patient/parent refusal or delayed result)**
- No COVID symptoms:**
  - Standard O.R. Precautions with face shield
  - Airborne & Contact Precautions** with face shield for all personnel

**Urgent Procedure**
- Decision on whether to proceed or delay case should be guided by a “huddle” between surgical team and Anesthesia charge
- If case proceeds, airway for Anesthesia with required “wait time” before remainder of staff enter room. Standard O.R. Precautions with face shield is sufficient for all others.

**Emergent Procedure**
- Insufficient time to await test results or to allow sufficient “wait time” for air exchange between intubation and remaining staff entering the room
- Urgent Procedure: assumes time allowed for appropriate “wait time” after intubation.

**UVM Medical Center Surgical and Procedural Guidelines**
10/14/2020 K Robinson, G Allen, C Wong, and Network CMOs

**Elective Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
  - If case must proceed, see “Emergent Procedure”

**Urgent Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
  - If case must proceed, see “Emergent Procedure”

**Emergent Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Standard O.R. Precautions including Anesthesia – no required “wait time”

**Urgent Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Standard O.R. Precautions including Anesthesia – no required “wait time”

**Emergency Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Standard O.R. Precautions including Anesthesia – no required “wait time”

**Post-operative placement:** Guided by test result. If test results unavailable and new COVID symptoms or high clinical suspicion is present, then place on COVID PUI unit and await results.

**PUI with test pending.**
- Anesthesia and Procedure teams review COVID test 24 hours prior to procedure
- PASC contacts patient and schedules an appointment at a designated drive-by testing location closest to residence. Complete documentation in Epic.

**COVID TEST Result**
- **POSITIVE Result**
  - No COVID Symptoms: Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
    - COVID Symptoms: Consider delaying the case
    - If case must proceed, see “Emergent Procedure”

- **NEGATIVE Result**
  - No COVID Symptoms: Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
    - COVID Symptoms or unable to assess: Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
    - If no new symptoms, patient is now a PUI
    - If case proceeds, Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
    - If case must proceed, see “Emergent Procedure”

- **UNAVAILABLE Result (patient/parent refusal or delayed result)**
  - No COVID Symptoms:
    - Standard O.R. Precautions with face shield
    - Airborne & Contact Precautions** with face shield for all personnel

**Elective Procedure**
- No COVID symptoms:
  - Airborne & Contact Precautions with face shield for all personnel
  - Recommended be rescheduled after 14 days

**Team huddle with anesthesia and ordering provider to determine timeframe.**
- If case must proceed, see “Emergent Procedure”