

Caring for a suspected or known COVID-19 case







Guidance for healthcare workers on the personal protective equipment (PPE) required for COVID-19 care in health, disability, residential and community care settings

- This is intended as a high level reference document when caring for a suspected or known COVID-19 case.¹
- Refer to local Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) guidance also.
- Refer to visiting policy of health care setting.



Important reminder

For all patient care and interactions, staff should follow Standard Precautions and adhere to the '5 moments for hand hygiene'

Precaution/PPE	Health and disability workers		Patients	Family carers
	When providing care in hospital or community based healthcare settings, including a persons place of residence ³	Aerosol generating procedures ⁴		
	Note: Staff are recommended to be fully vaccinated ²			Caring for own family members as per health care setting policy or in the persons own home.
 Hand hygiene	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Medical masks	✗	✗	✓ if patient can tolerate	✓ if tolerated
 P2/N95 ⁵ particulate respirators	✓	✓	✗	✗
 Gowns/Aprons	✓ When contact with body fluids is anticipated	✓	✗	✗
 Gloves Single use	✓ When contact with body fluids is anticipated	✓	✗	✗
 Eye protection Disposable or reusable whenever available	✓	✓	✗	✗

Notes

1. Case definition on: www.health.govt.nz/covid19-case-definition
2. Includes all health care team. For example: nurses, doctors, cleaners, orderlies, healthcare assistants, home and disability support workers.
3. Minimise number of people in the room at one time, or in a transfer team.
4. COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control: www.tewhātuora.govt.nz/covid19-ipc-health
5. P2/N95 respirator must comply with AS/NZS 1716:2012 Respiratory protective devices.