

# AVENUE II COVID-19 PANDEMIC PLANNING MANUAL

<b>TOPIC:</b> Pandemic Planning Protocols	<b>SUBJECT:</b> Personal Protective Equipment	<b>Code:</b> PPP009
		<b>Date of Issue:</b>
		<b>Revised:</b> June 2023
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**Preamble** – This document will outline Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) available to staff. The effectiveness of PPE depends on the person wearing it correctly and consistently.

## Staff Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) Quick Reference Guide

*Staff will be provided PPE for situations within this chart. When unsure, don PPE and call management for guidance.*

TASK	Gloves	Medical Mask	N95 Mask	Eye Protection	Gown
Providing direct care or personal care and hygiene to clients in all instances.	✓	✓		✓	
Risk of contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, non-intact skin, mucous membranes contaminated surfaces or object.	✓	✓		✓	Dependent on situation
Working in a household with severely immunocompromised clients. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.	Dependent on situation	✓			
When clients have symptoms of COVID-19 or a contagious disease.			✓	✓	
Clients are confirmed positive with COVID-19 or contagious illness.	✓		✓	✓	✓
Staff have very mild COVID-19 symptoms and negative PCR or RAT (if available) with no possible exposure that is not related to a known cause or pre-existing condition.			✓		
Staff or clients have knowingly been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or a contagious illness and have not properly worn a mask and other recommended PPE.			✓		
Close contact with clients who are unlikely to follow cough or sneeze etiquette.		✓		Optional if activity warrants	
When required by the environment they are in.	✓	✓			

*Note: Gloves do not replace Hand Hygiene.*

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Staff may choose to wear a mask in the following situation, but masks will not be provided.

- When unable to social distance from others.
- When outdoors.
- When at social functions.
- When in personal vehicles or traveling by bus or Lift+.
- When in public areas.
- For personal or medical reasons

Clients and families may request staff wear a medical mask while supporting or in certain situations by contacting the manager to make a formal request.

**Clients may wear a mask if they so choose but it is not mandatory. They will strongly be encouraged to wear a mask if they, roommates, or staff are sick.** Avenue II will only provide masks to clients in these circumstances. Clients may purchase PPE as an admissible Passport expense.

**Always respect the personal preferences and individual choices of staff and clients.**

**THE EMERGENCY PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT KIT CAN BE ACCESSED WHEN THERE IS A LACK OF ADEQUATE SUPPLIES.**

## **Definitions –**

**Direct care** is defined as providing hands on care within 2 meters of the client for personal care and hygiene activities such as eating, bathing, washing, turning, changing clothing, oral hygiene, continence care, dressing changes, care of open wounds or toileting. Pushing a wheelchair is not classified as direct care.

**Protective Personal Equipment (PPE)** - protects the wearer by minimizing their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

## **PPE AVAILABLE –**

For use of PPE please reference SR001- How to Properly Wear a Mask and SR005 – How to Put On and Take Off PPE

**Gloves** – Nitrile gloves are available in various sizes.

**Eye protection** - includes face shields, goggles, or safety glasses that are close fitting with a protective barrier on top and sides.

Eye protection included will be issued to each staff. Staff are responsible for the care and maintenance of re-usable items in accordance with appropriate procedures and guidance.

Cleaning of eye protection should occur when cleaning and disinfecting when extended use should occur when visibly soiled and/or cross contamination has occurred (e.g., eye protection adjusted with gloves during client care).

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## MASKS

**Medical Mask** – Level/Class 1 – 3 masks also referred to as a procedural mask or surgical mask for use by staff for respiratory etiquette to prevent the wearer from spreading germs by talking, coughing, or sneezing (source control).

**N- 95 masks** –All staff will be fit tested for the appropriate size as per guidelines. Please request to be fit tested again if you find the N95 mask is no longer fitting or when you have gained or lost weight.

**Isolation Gowns** - Disposable long sleeved gowns or washable gowns are worn for direct care when skin or clothing of staff may become contaminated.

If there are any questions or concerns, staff are to contact a manager, director, or on-call supervisor.