

During high-risk viral disease outbreaks, **like Coronavirus**, the illness can spread quickly. Proper care and cleaning can protect caregivers and patients and reduce the risks of a viral outbreak.

(See the latest Coronavirus updates and Fact Sheet on the Coronavirus website on [Intermountain.net](http://Intermountain.net).)

### 1. Patient Screening

- **Screen all patients** and document for travel to areas of concern or exposure to others that are known or suspected of having the illness. Refer to COVID-19 Guidance for current areas of concern.
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### 2. General Care Tips for ALL Patients

- **A procedural mask worn** by all patients with a cough and fever.
  - **Vigilant hand hygiene** before and after all patient contact, after contact with potentially infectious material, and applying or removing Personal Protective Equipment, including gloves.
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### 3. Care for Patients with Suspected COVID-19

- **Isolation:**

- **Droplet-Contact with eye protection and Private Room:**

- Initial evaluation
    - persons under investigation (not critically ill),
    - COVID infected patient that is clinically stable

- **Airborne-Contact (N95 or PAPR) in Negative Pressure room**

- COVID-19 infected patient that is critically ill or needing ICU level care
    - Any suspected COVID-19 patient needing aerosolizing procedure (Intubation, bronch, codes, positive pressure ventilation).

- **Airborne-Contact (N95 or PAPR) in Private Room**

- Obtaining test swab for COVID-19- (nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal) collection

**Transport:** Patients should stay masked. Avoid transportation to other areas. If transportation is necessary, follow isolation transportation guidelines.

- **Mask those with the patient.** Urge them to NOT stay with the patient.
  - **Maintain a written log** of all those who enter patient's room or come in contact with the patient.
  - **Provider completes a history and exam** of the patient.
  - **Contact the Utah Department of Health (1-888-EPI-UTAH) and then local Infectious Diseases on-call or the SCORE Hotline at 801-50-SCORE (801-507-2673) AND your Infection Preventionist.**
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#### 4. Treatment Plan

- **ALL patients should get appropriate workup depending on presentation.** Refer to COVID-19 Clinical Guidance.
- **Care will be guided by the Infectious Disease Doctor on call and the Health Department**, including any need for further testing, care, or transfers.
  - If the health department deems the patient low risk, and no further COVID-19 testing needed, reassess isolation needs with the Infectious Disease Doctor or the Infection Preventionist.

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#### 5. Cleaning - post discharge or transfer for suspected/confirmed cases

- **Close rooms after patient discharge** for air exchange.
  - 1-hour room closure for negative pressure rooms.
  - No room closure for patients in Private rooms (low risk)
- **Use the 9-step cleaning** method after room closure. Respiratory PPE is not required.
  - Use purple wipes, gray wipes, or QUAT to clean all horizontal surfaces, high touch areas, and patient care equipment, including any surface the patient had direct contact with including waiting areas.

**For more updates, go to the Coronavirus webpage on Intermountain.net  
or contact your facility's Infection Prevention lead**