



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

Managed Care

COVID-19 Update

March 18th, 2020

Due to nationwide shortages, ALL staff (providers, nurses, employees, etc.) MUST conserve our precious supplies. All masks must be reused (do not share masks among providers) unless they become visibly soiled. TTUHSC Managed Care is making every effort to increase supplies. During this critical shortage these steps are being taken:

- Prioritize negative air rooms and N95 masks for patients with r/o TB or COVID-19, or undergoing aerosol-generating procedures (AGP), otherwise use Droplet and Contact Precautions (gown, gloves, surgical mask and eye protection)
- If you are seeing a cohort of respiratory infection patients, then surgical masks can be worn for extended use
- If you are only seeing some respiratory infection patients amongst other patients, place mask in paper bag, write name on bag and store in isolation cart
- Consider seeing your respiratory infection patients at the end of rounds, provided they are not critically ill or require earlier attention
- If surgical masks become unavailable, faceshields may be used to protect the eyes, nose and mouth
- Eye goggles, eyeshields and faceshields may be reused between patients after wiping with disinfectant wipe...if visibility becomes limited, discard
- In the event gown supplies become critically low, these will be prioritized for AGP or procedures or care activities where splashes and sprays are anticipated, and high-contact patient care activities that may transfer pathogens to the clothing of HCWs

The goal is to prolong our current supply of these items, we do not know when or if current stocks will be replenished...we are evaluating on a day-by-day basis!

Sincerely,

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