

UCR SOM is committed to our students' safety especially while you are taking care of patients. The COVID epidemic has posed a unique challenge for all healthcare workers as it can be easily transmitted both in the community as well as the clinical setting. We consider our students who are on clinical rotations to be part of our essential healthcare team and they need to be adept in providing safe patient care during this COVID prevalent time. This document provides helpful guidelines to assist you as you navigate patient care.

**GENERAL COVID HYGIENE/SAFETY GUIDELINES:**

Avoid prolonged exposure as much as possible, minimizing prolonged contact (>15 minutes) and close contact (<6 feet) if possible. Students should not participate in aerosol generating procedures or specimen collection **unless** properly supervised AND have proper equipment (N95, gown, gloves and eye protection). We recommend that you follow- at all times- updated infection control and prevention practices as outlined by the CDC. If no surgical masks are available for patient care or if you have any concerns about your safety, please call the emergency hotline or email Student Affairs or Education dean immediately.

Wear facemask at **all** times (cloth face masks are not considered PPE) even when not performing patient care in clinical settings

Change into cloth mask only when leaving hospital/clinical site or if soiled, damaged or have difficulty breathing. (If removed and plan for extended usage, fold in half making sure to have the outer surface not come in contact with the side that touches the face)

N95 are not recommended for routine clinical care

### **IF DEVELOP COVID SYMPTOMS:**

If you develop symptoms attributable to COVID infection:

**-DO NOT ENGAGE IN PATIENT CARE!**

-Get COVID test

-Before you are cleared to return to hospital, clinic or classroom, you must:

1. Have a negative COVID test (*? times two*)
2. Have no fevers (100 F)
3. Have no respiratory symptoms

### **WHEN EXPOSED TO COVID POSITIVE PERSON:**

-Call the hotline (951-827-8275) for further guidance

-In general, if exposed to a patient while appropriately masked (and patient is masked) you can continue with clerkship responsibilities while monitoring for symptoms. You need to complete the UCR SOM COVID symptom checklist for 14 days.

-If become symptomatic, you will need to get COVID testing.

### **WHEN EXPOSED TO A PERSON UNDER INVESTIGATION OR A NON-CLINICAL CONTACT:**

-Call the hotline (951-827-8275) for further guidance. They will notify your team.

-Contact your primary care provider or Student Health Center if you are covered by GSHIP

-If you are deemed high risk and need testing, you must quarantine until your test results are received.

-If you are not advised by your provider to be tested for COVID, and you are asymptomatic, you may continue your clerkship responsibilities while monitoring for symptoms. You need to complete the UCR SOM COVID symptom checklist for 14 days.

Resources:

Healthcare Guidance to Reduce Exposure:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>

Donning and Doffing:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>