

## Transportation of COVID+ or PUI

### General Principles:

- Minimize transport for testing
  - Decision made by primary (7H or ICU) attending in conjunction with ICU consult attending and anesthesia (if patient requiring any oxygen support)
- Early consideration, decision-making, and notification of all stakeholders
  - Providers, nursing, RT, and support staff (e.g. radiology technicians) at sending and receiving locations
  - EMS, VA Police, Nursing supervisor

### Transport:

- If patient intubated, use transport vent with appropriate exhalatory valve filters
- If patient NOT intubated
  - If not requiring oxygen, place surgical mask on patient
  - If requiring oxygen, place HiOx NRB with filter, minimize flow if possible
  - No transport with BiPAP---intubate first if that degree of support is needed
  - If going to OR for general anesthesia, intubate in negative airflow room or 7H prior to transport, rather than in OR where there is not a negative air flow environment
- If possible, utilize Yellow Stryker motorized gurney from ED to transport patient.
  - If transporting in patient bed, wipe down bed railings
- Take extra sheet, surgical masks, and gloves for transport
- Staff transporting patient providing direct care (in contact with gurney) should wear appropriate PPE per infection control (N95/PAPR, face shield, clean gloves, clean gown)
  - Carry emergency med kit, to stay with patient
- At least one Staff member should travel with team with mask/face shield only, remain 6 ft away from gurney, and have clean hands to operate doors, elevator buttons.
  - Should not ride in elevator with patient.
  - Take stairs and meet patient on exit from elevator
- VA Police will also travel with patient/team with mask/face shield only but at 6' distance to help with traffic control.
  - Should not ride in elevator with patient.
  - Take stairs and meet patient on exit from elevator

### Special considerations if to/from 7H to acute care (e.g., radiology, IICU/MSICU, OR):

- Exit from 7H is ambulance entrance with ramp to Loop Road.
- See attached map for route from 7H to acute care
- Team in direct contact with gurney will remain in donned PPE but will place fresh blue gown and second layer of gloves on prior to leaving the building
- Those attending transport but at distance from patient will meet team on outside of building (ambulance entrance by loop road), wearing surgical mask only.
- If returning to 7H, team (only those with PPE) will re-enter via ambulance entrance
  - Upon return, place fresh blue gown and new gloves

### Once transport complete:

- EMS to clean touch points on route, equipment, and 7H ambulance entrance (ramp railings and doors) if applicable