



CODE BLUE Recommendations for Patients that are neither PUI nor COVID-19+ 8 April 2020

Rationale: Given recent changes in testing and diagnosis of COVID-19 at UAB, this guidance outlines the conduct of Code Blues for patients that are **not** PUIs and **not** COVID-19+.

Specifically, this guidance applies to two types of patients:

- A former PUI patient who has a documented COVID-19 negative test result that has been reviewed by the primary team and accepted as a true negative (thus no longer a PUI).
- A patient who lacks any symptoms of COVID-19 (no fever, cough, or dyspnea and thus not a PUI) and for whom a COVID-19 test is negative, pending, or not ordered.

Given that delays in performing effective CPR and defibrillation are closely tied to higher mortality, and that these two types of patients are at a very low risk for COVID-19 infection, we do not recommend donning the same PPE required for COVID-19+ or PUI Code Blues.

Instead, we recommend the following PPE for all healthcare workers involved in Code Blues for these patients:

- Surgical (Procedural) Mask
- Gloves

Additionally, for the provider performing intubation:

- Face shield

Appropriate PPE is essential even in Code Blue settings. The first provider donned in appropriate PPE (see above) should relieve anyone already in the room that is not wearing appropriate PPE.

Residents and fellows may be involved in these Code Blues (this differs from guidance for PUI or COVID-19+ patients).

If the patient is a PUI or COVID-19+, follow the guidance on UAB ONE for [Code Blue for PUI or COVID-19+ Patients](#).

For questions, please contact Dan Kelmenson (dkelmenson@uabmc.edu).