Decision Algorithm for PPE Use in the Operative Setting

**Step 1**
NEGATIVE COVID test in past 48h? (i.e. COVID test with negative result)
- **YES**: Treat as COVID negative for any case type
  Only standard PPE needed (no N95, gown, face shield)
- **NO**

**Step 2**
POSITIVE COVID test or PUI (pending COVID test)
- **YES**: RED LEVEL case
  See Guideline
- **NO**

**Step 3**
Not COVID+/PUI or COVID negative, but high-risk case
- **YES**: ORANGE LEVEL case
  See Guideline
- **NO**

**Step 4**
Not COVID+/PUI or COVID negative, and not high-risk case
- **YES**: GREEN LEVEL case
  See Guideline
Guideline for PPE Use and Team Management in the Operative Setting

Any patient with **NEGATIVE COVID test** can be treated as **COVID negative** for **any case**. Only standard PPE needed (no N95, gown, face shield)

**In-Room PPE***

- **All Team Members for Entire Case**
  - **N95**
  - After case, another patient is **NOT** brought to OR for ≥30 minutes; OR personnel may clean room using N-95, gowns, gloves, and eye protection.

**Equipment**

- Place blue bell and fluid cart in outside hall BEFORE patient enters room; set up OR table in hall for PPE doffing for COVID airway team

**Other Personnel**

- **RUNNER:**
  - Positioned in hall outside OR (not in sterile core)
  - Limit room traffic/ minimize door openings
  - Obtain needed supplies for anesthesia/surgery teams

**Higher-risk procedures in non-PUI and non-COVID patients**

- (See case list on VUMC corona website)
  - **All Team Members for Entire Case**
    - **N95**
    - After case, another patient is **NOT** brought to OR for ≥30 minutes; OR personnel may clean room using N-95, gowns, gloves, and eye protection.

**Anesthesia Team for Intub/Extub**

- **N95**
- All other team members should be >6’ away or out of room → wear standard PPE for surgical cases

**Standard practice**

- (no change from normal)

**All other patients and procedures**

(i.e. patients with no COVID test results that do not fit a red or orange level category)

- **All Team Members for Entire Case**
  - **N95**
  - After case, another patient is **NOT** brought to OR for ≥30 minutes; OR personnel may clean room using N-95, gowns, gloves, and eye protection.

**Standard practice**

- (no change from normal)

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* All PPE used in COVID+/PUI cases should be doffed into a biohazard bag after use
** Patient bed (stretcher or ICU bed) will have linens removed and placed in dirty linen receptacle and the bed will then be removed from OR, cleaned by EVS team in hall outside OR, make bed with clean linens, and stored in normal hallway location until end of case.
*** To be intubated by COVID Airway Team; please call 615-540-6446 to contact the team