

Q&A With The Joint Commission

Question

What type of environmental cleaning is recommended after an outpatient test such as x-ray, lab draw, etc. when the patient has respiratory symptoms upon entry to building?

Guidance for healthcare facilities can be found in Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings **Item number 10** at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Finfection-control%2Fcontrol-recommendations.html#infection_control

How long does an examination room have to remain vacant after being occupied by a patient with confirmed or suspected COVID-19?

It is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-faq.html>

Question

What measures should be in place for cleaning office spaces when people return to work?

General cleaning and disinfection guidance in the **community** settings such as offices can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

There is also an excellent tool at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/cleaning-disinfecting-decision-tool.html>

Question

What is the process for handling deceased bodies and patient belongings- COVID positive or PUI?

CDC Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons with Known or Suspected COVID-19: Transportation of Human Remains

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-postmortem-specimens.html>

Question

What mask should the laboratory staff use for PPE?

OSHA has provided guidance about COVID-19 which is available at

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>

Question

Need to know updated guidelines for PPE re-use in settings that are critically low on supplies.

Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment

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

Question

As we know there are a lot of silent carriers (asymptomatic patients) with COVID-19. How do we deal with this issue?

Joint Commission Statement on Universal Masking of Staff, Patients, and Visitors in Health Care Settings

<https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/covid19/universal-masking-statement-04232020.pdf>

Question

What are the recommendations for protecting patient and staff in a behavioral health hospital and are they different if patients are psychotic?

Use of Face Coverings on a Behavioral Health Patient for Source Control <https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/behavioral-health/infection-prevention-and-control-ic/000002328/>

Question

The Joint Commission statement on universal masking of staff, patients and visitors in health care settings refers to healthcare workers masking when they leave their homes. Would this be at all times even with social distancing?

Recommendation Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings, Especially in Areas of Significant Community-Based Transmission

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

Question

Is it feasible to convert a regular positive flow patient room to a negative flow for a COVID 19 patient?

ASHREA has provided access to a PowerPoint presentation that can be found at:

<http://tc0906.ashraetcs.org/documents/COVID%2019%20%20GUIDANCE%20-%20ASHRAE%20Revised3-25-2020.pdf>

Question

How long are we going to have to keep screening visitors and staff for COVID-19 when they enter a hospital or other clinical setting? Do we have to keep a written log?

Framework for Healthcare Systems Providing Non-COVID-19 Clinical Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/framework-non-COVID-care.html>

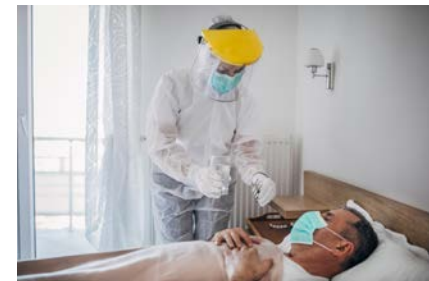
Looking for more information on CMS 1135 Waivers?

The screenshot shows the Joint Commission Connect website interface. At the top, the logo 'Joint Commission Connect' is displayed. Below it is a navigation menu with tabs: Home, Survey Process, Continuous Compliance, Communication, Resources and Tools, and Security Admin. The 'Resources and Tools' tab is selected. Under this tab, there are three main sections: Resources, Tools, and DASH – Data Analytics for Safe Healthcare. The 'Tools' section is highlighted with a yellow background and contains a 'Learn More' link. A red arrow points from this 'Learn More' link to a sub-section titled 'Tools - Learn More'. This sub-section contains a 'Learn More' button and a list of documents related to CMS 1135 Waivers, including CAH, HAP, OME, and NCC documents with their respective update dates.

Accredited organizations can learn more by visiting **Resources and Tools > Tools > Learn More** in their *Joint Commission Connect*® extranet site.

Thank You

We support your efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and hope to provide helpful resources



Resources

- COVID Resources

- <https://www.jointcommission.org/covid-19/>

- Standards Interpretation

- <https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/>