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#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

Question

What mask should the laboratory staff use for PPE?

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

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

Question

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

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

Question

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

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

Looking for more information on CMS 1135 Waivers?

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/