

[Advanced Search](#)
[Home](#) [Locations & Facilities](#) [Clinical Resources](#) [Administrative Services](#) [Inside Legacy](#)
[MyLegacy Intranet > Clinical Resources > COVID-19 > PPE > Legacy Health PPE Plan and FAQ](#)

Legacy Health PPE Plan and FAQ

3/25/2020 5:30 PM

Legacy Health wants to make sure that every Legacy Health provider and employee understands our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) conservation plan and their role in ensuring we achieve our goals based on our plan levels. It is important to understand that as we move to the next stage in conserving our PPE, additional changes may be needed to our plan. As you know, a critical tenet of crisis response is having the ability to change our approach to new information or changing factors like an increase in patients, or if we acquire more PPE in the coming days.

How is Legacy Health managing PPE?

Legacy Health's comprehensive PPE Conservation Plan has six (6) discrete levels shown below and we are currently at Level 3. We will continue to provide additional clarification about PPE guidelines for various items.



What does the change from Level 2 to 3 mean?

Legacy is moving from Level 2 to 3 in Legacy's staged PPE conservation plan due in part to a limited supply of PAPR shields. Legacy has also expanded what airborne precautions mean to include all aerosol generating procedures and all procedures entering the airway including intubation and bronchoscopy.

Usage

Increased re-use and extended use of PPE equipment including masks, PAPR shields and shrouds
 Continue to prioritize use of PAPRs with transition from shields to shrouds for some members
 N95 use for fit-tested individuals is acceptable for airborne precautions and will be allowed
 It is of vital importance that we use only the level of PPE that is needed.

COVID positive unventilated patients continue to require only contact and droplet precautions with eye protection.

While N95s are acceptable for airborne precautions, PAPR use is strongly preferred because of the ability to reuse face shields and shrouds.

For non-COVID patients in airborne precautions such as TB or for those assisting but not directly involved with the procedure (e.g. circulating nurse), both PAPR and N95 are appropriate. N95s were initially discouraged to preserve our supply.

Priority staff

Individual PAPR shrouds will be distributed to those most likely to be exposed to patients in airborne precautions in the course of their work.

Distribution

Shroud kits will be placed in bins and these kits have been distributed to each EOC.

What is Legacy doing to make sure we have needed PPE now and in the future?

In addition to our conservation plan, Legacy has and is pursuing aggressive measures to secure and extend current stores of PPE including reducing need for usage, increasing and replenishing PPE stores, and sterilizing equipment for reuse.

Reducing usage:

Reducing need for PPE use including:

- Developing PPE Standard Operating Procedures to provide on-the-ground guidance to providers and staff
- Revised visitor policy (zero visitors)
- Stoppage of non-essential procedures
- Telework when possible
- Movement of patients to video visits for initial evaluation
- Movement of patients to video visits for initial evaluation
- Work is ongoing with involved physician and specialty groups including ED, pulmonary/critical care, anesthesia, ENT and OMFS to streamline processes and aggressively minimize the number of people involved as well as the number of elevated risk cases need to perform.

Increasing and replenishing stores:

- Increasing our PPE stores by working with private and public vendors
- Accepting and evaluating donations

Sterilizing and reuse

Working on sterilization techniques such as the use of UV light and reprocessing

My friends want to make masks and they were told no, why?

Legacy is grateful for and applauds the community effort to help our organization respond to COVID-19. There are two main reasons we have ceased accepting home-made masks:

- We are not at the point where we would need to consider using homemade masks.
- We do not currently have patterns or materials guidance to provide volunteers what we believe would keep our providers and staff medically safe.
- We are working with our partners at other health care organizations to this end and will provide guidance to our volunteers when available.

What do I need to do to help?

We need you to follow the PPE Conservation plan at every phase and encourage your coworkers to do so. It is more important than ever to adhere to the guidelines for proper use of each type of PPE.

I took PPE (or scrubs) home by mistake. Can I return them, or will I be in trouble?

Legacy is encouraging employees to return PPE and scrubs to their local Material Service Operations (MSO) department - no questions asked. Please return as soon as possible.

Please contact us with questions or comments: [MyLegacy Content Authors](#)