

Minimize your exposure and Conserve PPE while caring for COVID-19 positive patients

Collaborate:

- Keep a central list of isolated patients at nursing station.
- Tell your colleagues when you are entering an isolation room and ask them to answer patient call bells from that room.
- Prioritize answering call bells from those rooms as it may be from team members inside the room.
- Identify interprofessional team members who can be 'runners' available for bringing supplies to these rooms.

Modify Care:

- Add IV extension tubes to allow pumps to remain outside of rooms.
- Perform doorway rounding if safe.
- Reduce frequency of blood work, point of care testing (i.e. glucose monitoring QID → BID).
- Create and use checklists before leaving room: ask patient if they need anything else, ensure personal items are in reach.
- Group your care so that you are doing multiple things in the room on one visit, such as setting up for meal, glucometer checks, vital signs, medications.

Communicate Creatively:

- Call patients on their phones.
- Use white boards to write messages that can be read through window on door.

Reassess Medication Orders Daily:

- Daily checks to hold or discontinue non-essential medications (i.e. most vitamins).
- Convert PRN to standing when possible (i.e. pain, nausea).
- Order as infrequently as safely possible (i.e. TID → BID if possible).
- Convert IV to PO whenever possible.