

Guidance for Transport of COVID-19-positive or COVID-19-suspected Patients between Units or to Necessary Procedures¹

March 30, 2020

1. All staff actively transporting the patient (generally 1 – 2 employees) need to wear PPE to maintain droplet/contact precautions (gowns, gloves, mask, eye protection). These individuals should avoid touching environmental surfaces during transport.
2. The patient and accompanying family member should wear a surgical facemask.
3. Security should be asked to commandeer an elevator to transfer the patient.
4. Another staff member wearing PPE for droplet precautions (mask and eye protection), but NOT a gown or gloves, should interact with the environment, e.g., push elevator buttons and open doors, and clear the hallway of visitors, patients, and clutter. This staff member should keep a distance ≥ 6 feet from the patient, if possible.
5. Only the patient and healthcare team should be in the elevator.
6. Elevator does not need to be cleaned or taken out of service following the transport.
7. Transporting clinical staff can remove their PPE in the patient's room in the new location or the procedure area.

¹ When feasible, postpone procedures or perform procedures in patient's room. If necessary for patient care and clinically safe, procedures should be scheduled as the last case of the day.

