



Recommended Practices and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Mass Immunization Clinics – Interim Guidance 08/10/2020

Phase 1-2: No evidence of community spread

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COVID-19 Screening questions:

For current list of screening see: <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/health-concerns-diseases-and-conditions/find-information-health-professionals>

If the patient screens “yes” to any of the screening questions, defer the immunization until the patient is no longer symptomatic, has finished the isolation period or directed by a health care provider to no longer self-isolate. Please note: if the patient presents with just a runny nose/nasal congestion for more than 24 hours, is mild, non-progressive and the individual is otherwise well, they can be safely seen in the clinic.

For those who have screened positive for symptoms, defer the mass immunization attendance, and advise the patient to call 811, complete the online Yukon COVID-19 self-assessment, contact their local healthcare provider or the COVID Testing and Assessment Centre (867-393-3083) as further evaluation and/or testing may be required. These clients can be safely seen within a routine clinic setting for immunization, with contact and droplet PPE, however immunization within the mass clinic setting is not recommended.

What are Routine Practices?

Routine Practices are the infection prevention and control (IPC) “practices for use in the routine care of all patients at all times in all

healthcare settings and are determined by the circumstances of the patient, the environment and the task to be performed.”¹ Central to these Routine Practices is a point-of-care (POC) risk assessment. A POC risk assessment is performed by healthcare workers to determine which IPC measures are appropriate to assure safe patient care, given the symptoms of the patient and the intended interaction, and to protect the healthcare worker from exposure to infection (such as exposure to body fluids, respiratory secretions, sharps, etc.).

Routine practices include, but are not limited to:

- Point-of-care risk assessment
- Hand hygiene (either soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer)
- Aseptic technique
- Patient placement and flow
- Appropriate use of PPE
- Management and cleaning of the patient care environment



The continuation of basic public health measures shown to reduce the risk of transmission and acquisition of COVID-19 is imperative to all interactions:

- Physical/social distancing
- Hand hygiene
- Respiratory etiquette

Additional measures can be put in place to help to create a safer environment for the patient and staff. Such environmental measures and visual cues include:

- Visual cues and signage at doors encouraging patients to call ahead if symptomatic
- Visual cues and signage re-enforcing good hand hygiene practices and respiratory etiquette
- Plexiglass barrier for administrative staff/screeners
- Duct tape or other visual cue indicating appropriate spacing between patients

The table on the following pages indicate the appropriate PPE for patient care based on target personnel and activity. If there are no symptoms or exposure risks (patient responds “no” to the screening questions), continue Routine Practices relevant for the intended

¹ “Routine practices and additional precautions for preventing the transmission of infection in healthcare settings.” 2017-09-05. www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/routine-practices-precautions-healthcare-associated-infections/part-a.html Accessed 15-04-20.

interaction.

Given the unique nature of mass clinics all individuals (over the age of 2 years) presenting to the clinic are recommended to wear a non-medical mask.

All staff who are required to wear a mask/eye protection (as documented below) should follow an extended use/re-use process. See Extended Use of Surgical/Procedure Mask Guideline and corresponding Mask Re-use Guidelines (how to) documents for additional information.

Appropriate PPE for patient care for mass immunization clinics, based on target personnel and activity.

Key:  Patients  Staff  Environmental Services

Target space	Target personnel	Activity/Interaction	Recommended practices
Screening / triage area	Staff	Screening or greeting a patient, not involving direct contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain at least 2 metres separation or Behind plexiglass If neither of the above is possible, staff should wear a medical mask and eye protection Hand hygiene
	Patients	Being screened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Non-medical/cloth mask Maintain at least 2 metres distance
Waiting area	Patients	Waiting for medical evaluation or immunization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Non-medical/cloth mask Maintain at least 2 metres between other patients
Direct clinical care area	Staff	Performing physical examination or immunization of patient who responds NO to screening questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Medical mask (extended wear when applicable) Goggles or face shield Gloves (if administering FLUMIST®)

	Patients responding NO to screening questions	Undergoing a medical evaluation or immunization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand hygiene • Non-medical/cloth mask
All patient care areas	Environmental services	Cleaning and decontamination of patient care areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine cleaning, any equipment shared between patients must be cleaned and disinfected**

**Additional information on appropriate cleaning practices in the medical offices can be found here: <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/health-concerns-diseases-and-conditions/find-information-health-professionals>