MANDATORY EYE PROTECTION

Given the ongoing COVID-19 surge, we now require the use of eye protection in expanded areas within our inpatient and outpatient clinical facilities at:

- Mission Bay Campus including Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco
- Parnassus Heights Campus
- Mount Zion Campus
- Other Clinical Areas (i.e.: Lakeshore, Laurel Heights)

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland and San Francisco already has instituted this requirement.

Appropriate Eye Protection* should be obtained from clinical care areas and will not be provided upon entry to our facilities. It is safe and acceptable at the beginning and end of your shift/workday to enter/exit the buildings with a surgical mask only.

*Personal eyeglasses are not considered appropriate eye protection. Please reference this guidance document for more information.

1. What is the change?
   We require the use of eye protection once you cross the threshold into a unit/clinic/designated care area as follows:
   a. Inpatient units, clinics, peri-op areas, procedural areas, radiology and the ED. Eye protection should continue to be worn in the breakroom, team workrooms or any shared spaces regardless if those spaces reside within the threshold of a clinical care area.
   b. Eye protection can only be removed if you are working in a private office but should be worn upon exiting the office into the care areas.
      i. Staff sharing an office may remove eye protection if they are 6 feet apart and all masked
   c. Even though eye protection will only be required in these areas, you are strongly encouraged to wear eye protection throughout your workday.
   d. This change is in addition to the requirement to use eye protection for direct close patient encounters as noted in this guidance including when patients are off the unit.

2. Why are we doing this?
   a. The addition of eye protection combined with either a mask or as indicated an N95 provides the most protection to the wearer, even when exposed to an unmasked COVID positive. This is important during direct patient care and in other settings such as break and teamwork rooms.
   b. We have seen that it is hard for health care personnel to consistently remember putting on eye protection while providing direct patient care. We anticipate that this eye protection update will increase compliance with this practice and thus minimize your risk of exposure and furlough.
   c. Refer to the OHS table for a breakdown of the exposure risk levels here.

3. What units/locations will this include?
   a. Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco
      i. All pediatric in-patient units and the Emergency Department in Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco
      ii. All pediatric clinics in the Gateway Medical Building
      iii. The pediatric primary care clinics including Mt. Zion and China Basin
      iv. The Pediatric OR/PACU/ Pre-Op, and Radiology areas at Mission Bay
   b. The threshold of each inpatient pediatric unit is defined as the area where the patient care rooms begin:

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1. For the ICN, the threshold will be defined as the main HUSC desk, not just entry into a zone.
2. For the 4th floor units, the threshold is at the HUSC desk.
3. For the 5th and 6th floor units, the threshold is when you turn onto the unit off the spine hallway.

b. Parnassus Heights, Mount Zion, & Mission Bay (Adult Areas)
   i. All inpatient units and the Emergency Department
   ii. All clinics
   iii. The OR/PACU/Pre-Op, procedural areas and Radiology
   iv. The threshold of each inpatient unit is defined as the area where the patient care rooms begin.
      For example:
      1. For Long units, the threshold is when you turn onto the unit off the Moffitt spine hallway or Long elevator lobbies
      2. For ICUs/OR/PACU, the threshold is when you cross the threshold of the main unit doors
      3. Mission Bay A5/A6, the threshold is when you turn onto the unit off the spine hallway.
      4. MZ 4E, the threshold would be upon exit from the elevator bay on the 4th floor

4. How do I pick the appropriate eye protection?
   Each unit has been stocked with the three options of eye protection available on site. Refer to this guidance document for more information.

   There are scenarios where a face shield is preferred over other types of eye protection such as when caring for patients on Novel Respiratory Isolation, for newly admitted asymptomatic patients with a COVID test pending who are receiving AGPs, and when splash/splatter is anticipated. Refer to this guidance for more detail.

   Personal eyeglasses are not considered appropriate eye protection.

5. Can I reuse my eye protection?
   Yes, you can. Please refer to this guidance for recommendations to clean your eye protection.