

## Duke Health Recommended Eye Protection

Duke Health recommends the use of eye protection while for all staff having direct interaction with patients and visitors. Direct interaction is defined as face-to-face interaction such as entering a patient's care environment (e.g. exam room, hospital room, bay, etc.) or coming within 6 feet for any duration of time.

While we have a universal masking policy that applies to everyone while in our facility, we recognize that patients and visitors sometimes fail to properly wear their mask above their nose and under their chin. Therefore, we recommend that all team members wear eye protection when interacting with patients and visitors. By wearing universal eye protection for all patient and visitor interactions, team members are prepared for any improper masking situation they may encounter. Face shields are the preferred eye protection as they provide full coverage of the eyes and protect the underlying face mask from potential contamination.

DUHS Infection Prevention teams have updated our recommendations for eye protection as follows:

- Face shields continue to be **REQUIRED** for care of patients on Special Airborne Contact isolation, Droplet, or Droplet/Contact isolation.
- Eye protection is **RECOMMENDED** for all team members providing direct patient care to patients not on the above isolation types.
  - Face shields are the preferred eye protection as they are readily available, provide full coverage of the eyes and protect the underlying face mask from potential contamination.
  - Individual healthcare workers may wear their own eye protection such as safety glasses/goggles when not providing care to patients on Special Airborne Contact isolation, Droplet, or Droplet/Contact isolation, if the eye protection meets the following criteria:
    - Meets the ANSI Z87.1 standard
    - Does NOT contain natural rubber latex
    - Provides adequate coverage – (fits face and wraps around for side protection)
    - Fits comfortably
    - Anti-fog
    - Scratch-resistant
    - Fits over prescription eyeglasses, for those who wear glasses