**Standard Operating Guideline:** **Risk-Based Guidance for Personal Protective Equipment (Based upon current availability)**

**Issued:**

**Effective Dates:**

**PURPOSE**: Reduce the risk to fire fighters and EMS providers by providing a matrix of personal protective equipment (PPE) recommendations, consistent with federal regulations and consensus standards, and based upon the mission and the role of the responder in response to that mission to provide protection from exposure from COVI-19. These guidelines will seek to consider currently available PPE and PPE that will or may become available as supply chains are restored and meet demand.

**SCOPE**: To provide a consistent and interoperable capability among all fire departments in Massachusetts, this Standard Operating Guideline should be followed by all departments.

**GUIDELINES:** All responders should become familiar with and comply with the following table of personal protective equipment based upon mission and role. Fire Department will endeavor to maintain adequate levels of personal protective equipment and may opt to increase PPE levels in accordance with this table, from minimal to optimal, as equipment becomes available.

To use the Mission/Role/PPE Matrix, identify the incident description that best meets the circumstances of a response. Then, identify your role as either: EMS Provider, Fire Fighter, or Commander. For immediate needs purposes, identify equipment on hand to utilize for PPE. For planning and purchase purposes, identify available or optimal equipment as listed

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mission | Role | Minimum | Optimal |
| All patient contacts | EMS Provider | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination gloves meeting ASTM D3578 (Latex)**\*Note; Supply shortages of N-95 may require a stepdown to surgical masks, until resolved** | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Fire Fighter/1st Responder | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 |
| Commander | Distance | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 |
| Patient within a close space (e.g. bedroom)Patient within a close space (e.g. bedroom) (Cont.) | EMS Provider | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Hooded and taped coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Fire Fighter/1st Responder | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Commander | Distance | Distance |
| Patient with symptoms, history and physical findings consistent with COVID-19Patient with symptoms, history and physical findings consistent with COVID-19 (cont.) | EMS Provider | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves, Double gloves, meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Hooded and taped coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Fire Fighter/1st Responder | Distance | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves, Double gloves, meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Hooded and taped coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Commander | Distance | Distance |
| Unknown, critical patientUnknown, critical patient(Cont.) | EMS Provider | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves, Double gloves, meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Hooded and taped coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Fire Fighter/1st Responder | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 | Fit tested N-95 or better RespiratorVented Goggles or full face shieldExamination Gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977Gown or coveralls meeting ASTM F 1671 or NFPA 1999 |
| Commander | Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shieldsExamination gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 | Distance, plus Fit tested N-95 RespiratorSafety glasses with side and top shields, goggles or full face shieldExamination gloves meeting ASTM D6319 (Nitrile), NFPA 1999 or ASTM D6977 |