



Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMP)

September 1, 2020

AGMPs that generate small droplet nuclei in high concentration present a risk for airborne transmission of pathogens not otherwise able to spread by the airborne route (e.g. coronavirus, influenza virus). Health care workers (HCWs) should conduct a Point-of-Care Risk Assessment prior to performing any AGMPs to determine the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) required, and to follow and implement additional measures outlined in their local health authority guidelines to minimize risk.

Table 1 provides examples of AGMPs requiring the use of an N95 Respirator for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients. HCWs performing or assisting with the AGMP should wear the appropriate PPE: gown, gloves, eye protection and a fit-tested N95 respirator.

Important: The list in Table 1 is not exhaustive, but includes representative procedures that may generate AGMPs, and it will be updated as required. Local health authorities may have additional examples of AGMPs. For scenarios not described in the table, please contact your local Infection Prevention and Control team and/or the Medical Health Officer.

Airway suctioning (deep suction and open tracheal suctioning)	Intubation and extubation procedures (e.g. manual ventilation before intubation, disconnecting the patient from the ventilator, physical proning of the patient, breaking closed ventilation systems intentionally or un-intentionally)
Autopsy	Mastoidectomy
Bronchoscopy and bronchoalveolar lavage	Nasopharyngeal aspirates, washes and scoping*
CPR with bag valve mask ventilation	Nebulized therapy
Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) or bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP)	Sputum induction
Direct laryngoscopy	Tracheotomy
High flow oxygen therapy (including single and double flow O2 set ups, Optiflow and Airvo)	Tracheostomy care

* Nasopharyngeal and throat swabs can be performed using contact and droplet precautions with gloves, gown, surgical/procedure mask and eye protection, and do not require the use of an N95 respirator.

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