



health

Department:
Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

GREY'S HOSPITAL

GREYPE-VINE SPECIAL EDITION

Special Edition – Covid-19

MAY 2020



FIGHTING DISEASE, FIGHTING POVERTY, GIVING HOPE

Background: taken from the NICD

On the 31st December 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) China country office reported a cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China. A novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) has been confirmed as the causative virus.

Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

Mode of transmission:

Current data suggest person-to-person transmission most commonly happens during close exposure to a person infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, primarily via respiratory droplets produced when the infected person speaks, coughs, or sneezes. Droplets can land in the mouths, noses, or eyes of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs of those within close proximity. Transmission also might occur through contact with contaminated surfaces followed by self-delivery to the eyes, nose, or mouth

How is COVID-19 treated?

There is no specific treatment available for SARS-CoV-2. Treatment is supportive (e.g. providing oxygen for patients with shortness of breath or managing a fever). Antibiotics do not treat viral infections. However, antibiotics may be required if a secondary bacterial infection develops

Can you recover from the corona virus?

You can recover from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Catching the new coronavirus **DOES NOT** mean you will have it for life. Most of the people who catch COVID-19 can recover and eliminate the virus from their bodies.

Can you contract the coronavirus disease by touching a surface?

People could catch COVID-19 by touching contaminated surfaces or objects – and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth.

How does COVID-19 Spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or exhales. These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air, and quickly fall on floors or surfaces.

You can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within close proximity of someone who has COVID-19, or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose or mouth.

What are the symptoms?



Fever



Cough



Fatigue



Sore throat



Shortness of breath

Suspected case definition: Persons with acute Respiratory illness with sudden onset of at least one of the following: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or fever [$\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (measured) or history of fever (subjective) irrespective of admission status

Probable case definition: Persons with acute respiratory illness with sudden onset of at least one of the following: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or fever [$\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (measured) or history of fever (subjective)] irrespective of admission status **AND** or whom testing for SARS-CoV-2 is inconclusive (the result of the test reported by the laboratory) or who tested positive on a pan-coronavirus assay

Confirmed case Definition: A person with laboratory confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 infection (using a PCR-based assay), irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

Patient under investigation (PUI) : COVID-Persons with acute respiratory illness with sudden onset of at least one of the following: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or fever [$\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (measured) or history of fever (subjective)] irrespective of admission status.

CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)

DETECTION & PROTECTIVE ADVICE

KNOW THE SIGNS:



FEVER



COUGH



SORE THROAT



SHORTNESS OF BREATH

STOP THE SPREAD:



ISOLATE YOURSELF



CALL YOUR DOCTOR



LIST TRAVEL HISTORY



COVER YOUR MOUTH



WASH HANDS OFTEN

Grey's hospital received the first COVID-19 patient on the night of 05 March 2020 into the designated COVID-19 isolated unit, located in the Antenatal clinic. The team, led by Dr H Dawood (Infectious Diseases) admitted the patient into the isolation unit and so began our COVID-19 journey at Grey's hospital.



Grey's team that received patient zero to the isolation unit



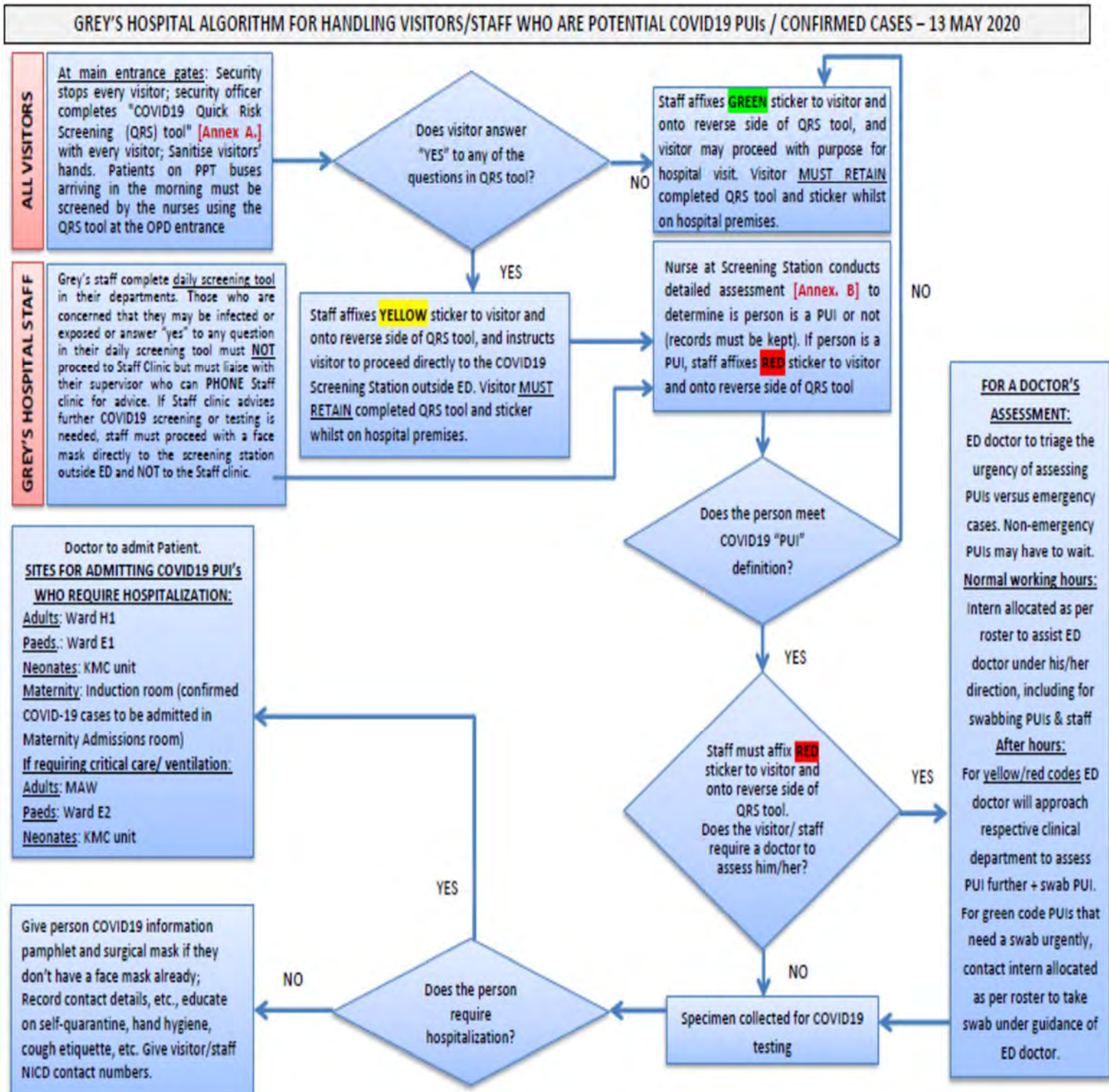
Full Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE)

GREY'S HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19

Grey's management set up a Joint Operations Committee (JOC) that would enable the facilities epidemic preparedness and coordinate the outbreak response. The JOC met every day at first, but now meet every alternate day.

The following were the first COVID-19 outbreak response systems implemented and encouraged at Grey's Hospital:

- An Algorithm for screening of all visitors of the Hospital for potential suspect COVID-19 cases was released on 13 March 2020, and later updated (latest version on 13 May 2020).



- Four tents / stations (3 outside ED for visitors/ staff screening, patients waiting area and for assessing suspect cases, and another tent outside Maternity Department for screening).
- Passive screening of all staff via daily body temperature checks which is then recorded on a staff monitoring template



DAILY SYMPTOM MONITORING TOOL FOR COVID-19 SYMPTOMS FOR ALL GREY'S HOSPITAL STAFF - 20/4/2020

Adapted from: *Guide to management of staff in healthcare and laboratory settings with COVID-19 illness and exposure (V9, 31 March 2020)*

GREY'S HOSPITAL Refer to most recent NICD COVID-19 PUI criteria for testing: <http://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/covid-19/>

Note: All staff must have this tool completed **daily** when they have their temperature checked at the start of the shift.

If the employee answers 'yes' to any of the questions or if the temperature is abnormal, the employee's supervisor must contact the Staff Clinic (OHS) for further advice immediately.

Use a new page of this template when additional space is required. Store all records securely.

Surname		First Name		Department/ unit:									
Contact Cell number		Role: Circle as appropriate	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nurse</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Admin</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Security</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Other:(specify</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Doctor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Laboratory</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Cleaner</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Nurse	Admin	Security	Other:(specify	Doctor	Laboratory	Cleaner	
Nurse	Admin	Security	Other:(specify										
Doctor	Laboratory	Cleaner											
Date: DD/MM													
Temperature (no meds)	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C								
<i>Please note: A temperature of ≥38°C or an increase of 1°C above the usual baseline would be considered abnormal.</i>													
Symptoms (Circle Y or N)													
Sore throat	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Cough	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Loss of smell OR loss of taste	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Body aches	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Chills	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Shortness of breath	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Redness of the eyes	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Nausea/vomiting/diarrhoea	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
Fatigue/ weakness	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N								
At Home or work?	H / W	H / W	H / W	H / W	H / W								
Other relevant history/ information:													

- Personnel training on personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Decrease volume of non-emergency outpatients, admissions and elective surgery in order to remain prepared for a scale-up response to the COVID-19 outbreak
- Social distancing enforced in patient waiting areas, e.g. OPD and areas such as the lodger facility, lifts, meeting venues, etc. Meetings that are considered non-essential have been suspended/ discouraged. Electronic and tele-/ video-communication was encouraged.
- Visiting of patients was suspended except for exceptional cases
- Closure of redundant Hospital entrances, including Montgomery drive entrance
- Availability of EAP and OHS services for psychological support of staff
- Various other protocols and plans have been developed in response to the outbreak and handling of PUI's (suspect cases) and confirmed cases at Grey's Hospital, e.g. health care worker active and passive screening plan, fitness criteria for health care workers working in designated COVID-19 ward/units, etc.

- Continuous infection prevention and control practices, such as handwashing, not touching one's face, coughing or sneezing into a tissue or elbow
- Correct waste management is enforced at all times.
- Barriers placed approximately 1 to 1.5m from frontline service counters/ desks are encouraged
- Signage and posters where put up at the entrance and in strategic places to provide instructions about hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette

The guidance may change as new information becomes available or there are new developments in the current Pandemic situation.

Coronavirus: What you need to do



**Wash your
hands**



**Use a tissue
for coughs**



**Avoid touching
your face**

THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Personnel are to follow the detailed recommendation for use of personal protective equipment (PPE) as per National DOH COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines 01 April 2020 as set out in the table below.

Setting	Target Personnel or patients	Activity	Type of PPE or Procedure
Isolation cubicles, rooms, or wards where COVID-19 patients are being cared for.	Patient with COVID-19	Any	Surgical Mask
	Clinical Staff	Providing direct care to COVID-19 patients	Surgical Mask Apron Non-sterile Gloves Eye protection (goggles or visor)
	Clinical Staff	Aerosol-generating procedures performed on COVID-19 patients (such as nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabbing for testing for coronavirus infections) N95 respirators are only worn when performing aerosol producing procedures	N95 Respirator Apron or gown Non-sterile Gloves Eye protection (goggles or visor)
	Cleaners	Entering the cubicle or room or ward of COVID-19 patients	Surgical mask Apron Long rubber utility cleaning gloves (ideally up to elbow) that can be washed Eye protection (goggles or visor) Closed work shoes
	Porters and nurses	Transport of COVID-19 patients	Surgical mask Non-sterile Gloves
	Catering staff	Providing meals inside COVID-19 ward	Surgical Mask Non-sterile Gloves
	Administrative personnel	Administrative staff supporting COVID-19 ward services, who are not usually in direct contact with patients, but would enter the isolation ward.	Surgical Mask Non-sterile Gloves Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 metre, where possible
	Security personnel	Any	Surgical Mask
	Laundry workers	Laundrying of COVID-19 patient linen	Linen to be bagged separate from other linen Surgical mask Apron Long rubber utility cleaning gloves (ideally up to elbow) that can be washed Eye protection (goggles or visor) Closed work shoes
All types of wards where Non-COVID-19 patients (i.e. patients who do NOT have COVID-19 are being cared for	Patients without COVID-19	Any	<i>a person must wear a cloth mask or home-made/ appropriate item to cover their nose and mouth when in a public place</i>
	Clinical Staff	Aerosol-generating procedures performed on Non-COVID-19 patients	Surgical mask Apron Non-sterile gloves Eye protection (goggles or visor)
	All staff	Any other activity besides Aerosol-generating procedures performed for Non-COVID-19 patients	<i>a person must wear a cloth mask or home-made/ appropriate item to cover their nose and mouth when in a public place</i>
	Visitors	Visiting patients without COVID-19	<i>a person must wear a cloth mask or home-made/ appropriate item to cover their nose and mouth when in a public place</i>
Other areas of the hospital where COVID-19 patients transit (e.g. corridors) but are not directly attended to.	All staff	Any activity that does not involve contact with COVID-19 patients	<i>a person must wear a cloth mask or home-made/ appropriate item to cover their nose and mouth when in a public place</i>

Precaution Tips

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others

Avoid going to crowded places.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately and wash your hands.

Reasons why

Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

When someone coughs, sneezes, or speaks they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person has the disease.

Where people come together in crowds, you are more likely to come into close contact with someone that has COVID-19 and it is more difficult to maintain physical distance of 1 metre (3 feet).

Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and infect you.

Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene, you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.



Introduction of the Quick Risk Screening Tool

To further ensure the safety of Grey's personnel and the patients, Dr L Naidoo (Medical Manager) has introduced the Quick Risk screening tool. The security officers at the main gate entrance are screening every visitor (motorist and pedestrians) and will be asking five (5) questions from the quick risk screening tool. This does not apply to Grey's hospital personnel.

Quick Risk Screening tool Questions are:

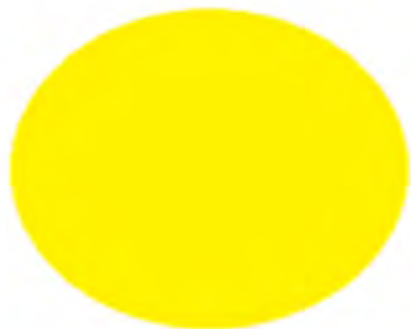
- Are you currently experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, e.g. fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath?
- Have you been tested for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Has anyone in your home or workplace tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Have you been in contact with a positive COVID-19 case in the last 14 days?
- Did you travel between major cities or towns in the last 14 days?

Once the person has been screened:

- if the person answers "yes" to ANY of the quick risk screening tool questions, they will be issued a **YELLOW** sticker to be worn on their clothes and they will be directed to the COVID-19 screening booth located outside the Emergency Department for further assessment. At this screening booth, if the person is assessed to be a Person Under Investigation (PUI), he/she will be swabbed, then issued a **RED** sticker, counselled and asked to leave the premises and be quarantined.
- if the person answers "no" to ALL of the questions, they will be issued a **GREEN** sticker and they may proceed with their purpose at the hospital.



Visitor has been screened and is considered "SAFE" to continue with purpose for visit to the hospital



Visitor has been identified as a potential COVID-19 suspect case and needs to be directed to the COVID-19 screening booth outside Emergency Department for further assessment



Visitor has been screened as a COVID-19 PUI (suspect case) and is considered "UNSAFE" to continue with purpose for visit to the hospital. Visitor to be advised to be quarantined immediately



Prof Cheryl Cohen

Dear Colleagues

Some people believe that thermal scanners can detect a person with COVID-19. This is not true. Prof Cheryl Cohen explains this myth.

Thermal scanners are employed as a measure to help minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19 by detecting the signature symptom which is a fever of 38 °C and above.

Please be aware of fake news and myths as they are misleading. To separate fact from myth, stay connected to our communication channels which can be found at the foot of this mailer.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, such as shortness of breath, dry cough and fever (38 °C and above) please contact your healthcare practitioner immediately.

More information on COVID-19:

- WhatsApp "Hi" to 0600 123 456
- Dial the toll-free number: 0800 029 999
- Visit www.nicd.ac.za

"The greatest compassion is the prevention of human suffering through patience, alertness, courage and kindness."

– Amit Ray, Walking the Path of Compassion

Make physical distancing a way of Life

Dear colleagues

We all have a role to play in the fight against COVID-19, therefore behavioural change is essential in this process to establish a new normal.

Just because the lockdown regulations have been relaxed, it does not mean that we should cease to practice preventative measures. COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities and the world. It spreads from person to person through infected droplets from the mouth and nose.

Physical distancing is a new normal and a way of life. Reducing the way we come in close contact with each other is essential to reduce the spread of the virus.

The term physical distancing refers to staying home as much as possible and avoiding crowded, public places where there is a high possibility of close contact with others.

Even in the workplace, limit unnecessary close contact with others. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to keep a distance where possible, even if you—or they—have no symptoms.

To practice physical distancing:

- Always keep a distance of 1.5m (three steps) from other people (in queues and daily interactions);
- Do not gather in groups;
- Plan your essential-goods shopping trips to limit the number times you go out to buy; and

Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.

Ref: NICD



Cleaning and Disinfection of environmental surfaces in the context of COVID-19-WHO

Healthcare setting: Recommended frequency of cleaning of environmental surfaces, according to the patient areas with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients

Patient Area	Frequency	Additional guidelines
Screening/triaging area	At least twice daily	Focus on high touch surfaces, then floors (last)
Inpatient rooms/ cohort-occupied	At least twice daily, preferably three times daily, in particular for high touch surfaces	Focus on high touch surfaces, starting with shared/common surfaces, then move to each patient bed, use new cloth for each bed if possible: then floors (last)
Inpatient rooms-unoccupied (terminal cleaning)	Upon discharge/transfer	Low-touch surfaces, high-touch surfaces, floors (in that order), waste and linens removed, bed thoroughly cleaned and disinfected
Outpatient/ambulatory care rooms	After each patient visit (in particular for high-touch surfaces) and at least once daily terminal clean	High-touch surfaces to be disinfected after each patient visit Once daily low-touch surfaces, high-touch surfaces, floors (in that order): waste and linens removed, examination bed thoroughly cleaned and disinfected
Hallway/corridors	At least twice daily	High-touch surfaces including railings and equipment in hallways, then floors (last)
Patient bathrooms/toilets	Private patient room toilet; at least twice daily	High-touch surfaces, including door handles, light switches, counters, faucets, then sink bowls, then toilets and finally floor (in that order)
	Shared toilets: at least three times daily	Avoid sharing toilets between staff and patients



STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS



Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing



Dispose of used tissues properly after use



Regularly wash hands with soap and warm water



If you have flu-like symptoms, seek medical attention immediately



If you have flu-like symptoms, keep distance of at least 3 feet from other people



If you have flu-like symptoms, stay home from work, school or crowded places



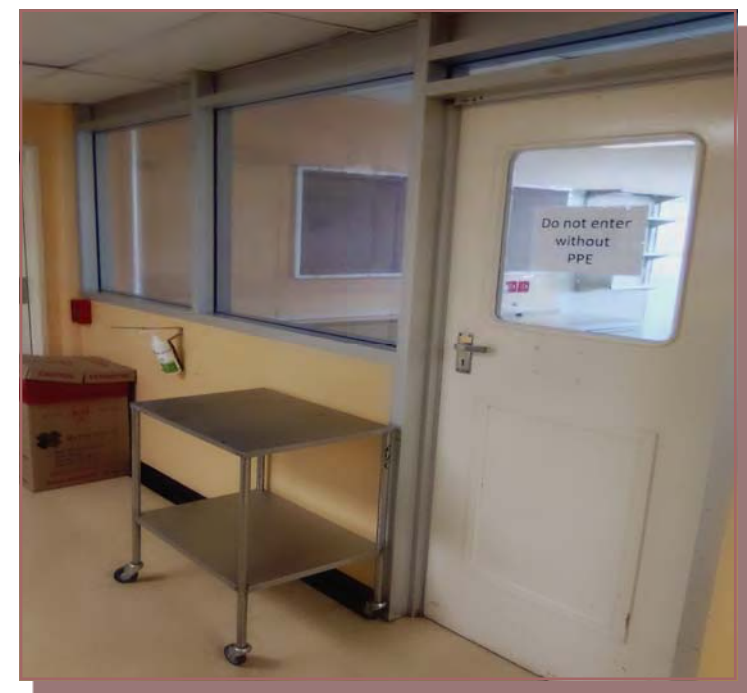
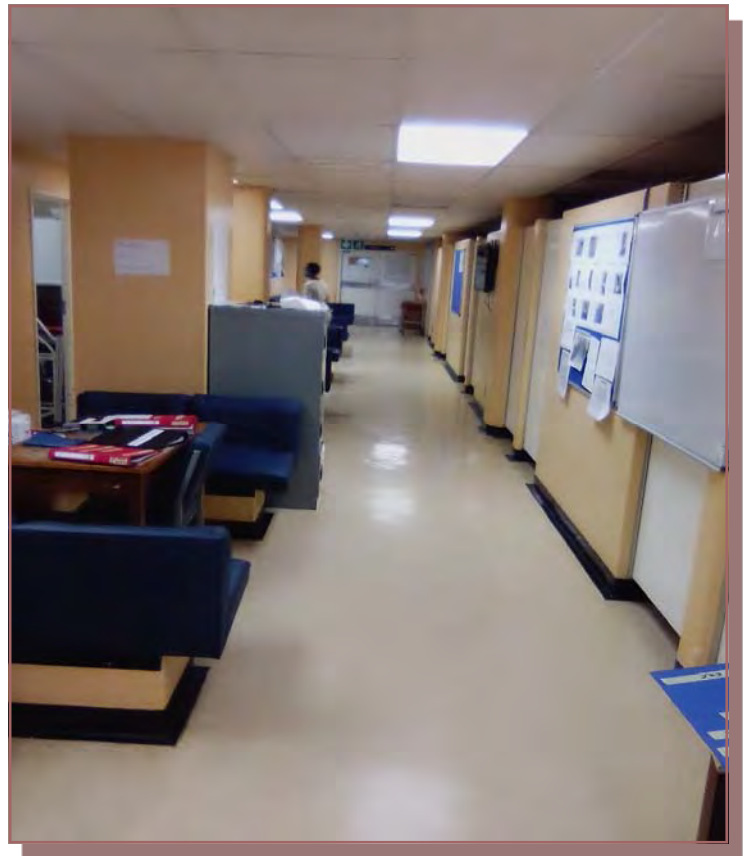
Avoid hugging, kissing and shaking hands when greeting



Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands

The Grey's Hospital Isolation Unit

The COVID-19 isolation unit is found at the maternity section commonly known as the Antenatal Clinic (ANC). It is made up of 6 beds, one of which is an ICU bed. The unit was previously used for Viral Hemorrhagic fever (VHF) outbreak but is currently admitting COVID-19 patients. The unit has a negative pressure system, macerator and all essential equipment needed to care for patients with COVID-19.



Isolation pod

Grey's was proactive in ensuring the safe and efficient transport of patients with the Corona virus (COVID-19). The isolation transportation pod is a single person isolation transportation system, used for the transportation of coronavirus (COVID-19) patients, or a potentially infectious patient, whilst ensuring the welfare of the public and healthcare workers. Mr Deena Naidoo (Assistant Nurse Manager), took on the task to design and produce these much needed pods with the assistance of Emergency Department personnel. He also went further and designed and produced the transport head box with the assistance of Mr Campbell (Artisan Foreman Structural) and Mr Oellerman (Artisan/Foreman/Painter). Thank you so much for your hard work and dedication in ensuring our safety and the safety of the patients.



Single person isolation transportation system



Transport Head Box



MESSAGE FROM MANAGEMENT

We urge each and everyone of you to continue to play your part in managing the Covid-19 virus, wear a mask at all times in your work area, and in public, wash your hands regularly and disinfect surfaces you normally come into contact with i.e. computer, phone, etc

We value and appreciate all that you are doing, and together we can overcome this virus.

MESSAGE FROM DR H. DAWOOD

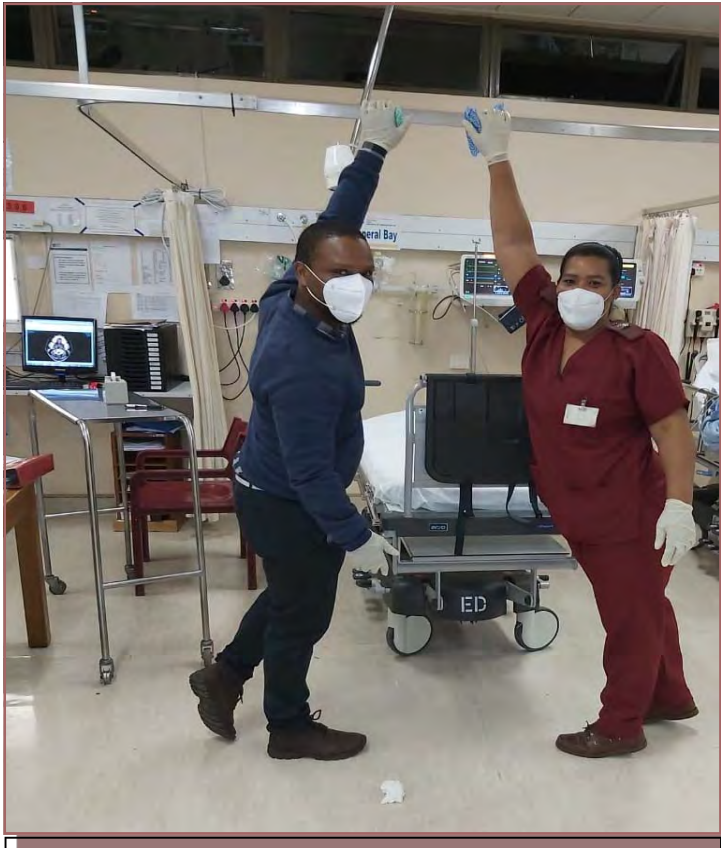


I wish to express my gratitude to all healthcare professionals who dedicate their lives to care for those who need our help the most. In particular, during this challenging time, your selflessness and strength honors the strong tradition of protecting the sick and vulnerable. I am humbled to witness the relentless devotion to patients, healthcare and infection control.

COVID-19 is here to stay, we need to continue infection control and prevention practices, social distancing to curb the rapid spread of infection and limit the impact to the most vulnerable, namely the elderly, those with chronic diseases. The lockdown has bought us time to prepare for the rapid spread of infection and to increase community awareness. Please continue this fight to keep everyone safe. Practice hand hygiene, wear a mask and social/physical distancing.

May we have the strength and wisdom to conquer this challenge.

THANK
YOU



Doctors and Nurses team up in ensuring a clean environment



Nurse teaching patients on how to put a face mask on



Everyone is involved in cleaning



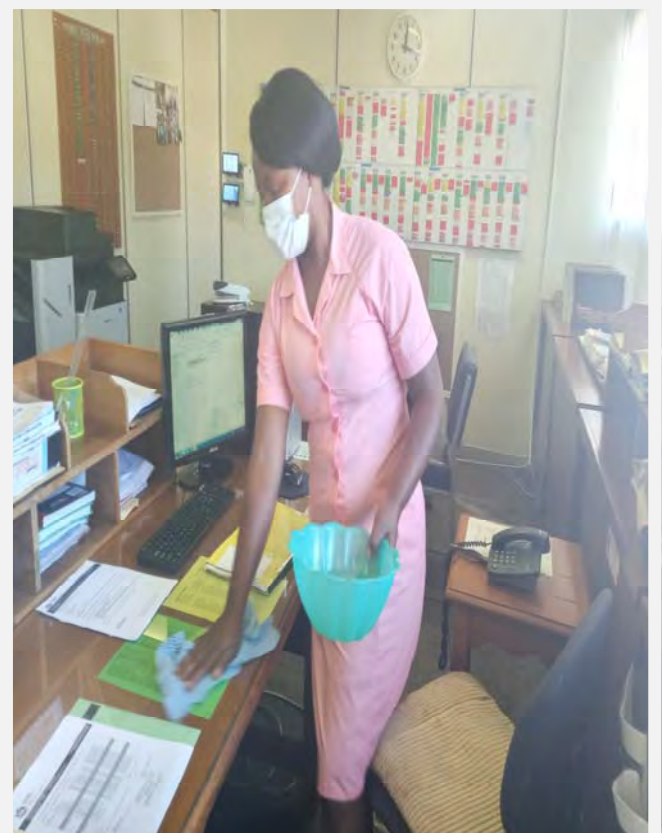
Personnel Protective equipment



Hand washing practiced between patients contact



Social distancing is enforced



Surface cleaning is encouraged

TAKING THE LEAD



Dr KB Bilenge (CEO) ensuring the correct safety measures are enforced at the Main Entrance to the Grey's Hospital



Security officer preparing to stop motorists



Security officer questioning a pedestrian at the main entrance using the Quick Risk screening tool



Use of hand sanitizer is enforced at the entrance to the Out Patient Department

MINISTERIAL VISIT TO GREY'S HOSPITAL

On the 06 March 2020 Grey's hospital was honoured to receive a visit from the National Minister of Health: Dr. Z. Mkhize, MEC for KZN Health: Ms N. Simelane-Zulu, Head: Health: Dr SC Tshabalala, DDG. Dr M. Gumede.

All personnel were invited to attend the meeting which was held in the Grey's Hospital Recreational Hall. The aim of the meeting was to give an overview of the Corona virus, and to clarify "What is coronavirus, how is it spread from person –to– person, how is COVID-19 diagnosed, who should be tested, how do we stop it from spreading, who is at risk of getting infected once a case of coronavirus has been identified."

The District and KZN Provincial officials were also in attendance. We appreciated this meeting and would like to extend our gratitude to the National Minister of Health for his visit.



From Left: DDG: Dr M. Gumede, Head: Health: Dr SC Tshabalala, MEC for KZN Health: Ms N. Simelane-Zulu, National Minister of Health: Dr Z. Mkhize and Grey's Hospital CEO: Dr KB. Bilenge



The National Minister of Health: Dr Zweli Mkhize and MEC for KZN Health: Ms N. Simelane-Zulu speaking to Grey's Hospital employees , Management District and Provincial Health officials.





Grey's Hospital staff members had a great moment with National Minister, KZN MEC for Health and Provincial Health leadership



GREY'S HOSPITAL APPRECIATES YOUR GENEROSITY: GIFT OF THE GIVERS, SHOPRITE GROUP, CLOVER S.A, PROPRIETARY LIMITED, ABSA AND MANY MORE

We are doing more with your support, thank you for your donation towards Grey's Hospital Staff members as a token of appreciation for their hard work and ongoing sacrifices during COVID-19 Crisis and Lockdown.



Gift of the Givers donating face masks to Dr KB Bilenge (CEO)



Shoprite Group donating snack packages for the nurses to Mrs KT Mackenzie (Nurse manager)



Mr D Naidoo second from the left receiving food product from Clover S.A LTD



Dr B. Bilenge, Mrs KT Mckenzie, Mrs T.B Mathonsi receiving Nursing Blankets from Mr Ronnie Mbatsane: Managing Executive of ABSA KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga



Nadia Marais handing over 500 cloth face masks for Grey's in-patients to the CEO Dr KB Bilenge



Sr L Thomas receiving donation of soaps from the Pick and Pay group for patients

REFERENCE USED:

- ⇒ NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NICD)
- ⇒ WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)
- ⇒ NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IPC GUIDELINES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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FIGHTING DISEASE, FIGHTING POVERTY, GIVING HOPE