Resuscitation (Code Blue) Guidelines

This information is intended to help healthcare providers reduce the risk for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) transmission with regards to resuscitation care. The information here is drawn primarily from U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations:

Please note that the following guidance is intended specifically for when patients have known or suspected COVID-19. In all other cases, follow your standard protocols.

When caring for patients with known or suspected COVID-19:

1. Don full PPE, including N-95, Face Shield, Gown and gloves prior to entering room and initiating resuscitation.

2. Keep crash cart outside of room*

3. Move defibrillator from the cart to a stable surface in the room that is close enough to access the patient.

4. One colleague near crash cart to hand code team necessary medications/supplies through the doorway

5. Minimize code team to smallest number of caregivers possible – all support staff (pharmacists, scribe, runner) wait in hallway outside the doorway.


7. Restocking:
   - Disinfect defibrillator with disinfectant wipes before removing from room.
   - Follow local procedures as established by site for notifying pharmacy, securing and restocking code blue cart.
   - Place 4 full sets of PPE on cart to include gown, gloves, N-95 mask, face shield
   - Intubation Supplies: Video laryngoscope, laryngoscope stylets, plastic covers-adult - 3 and 4
Replace the "Do not bring cart into the room" sign on the cart, if moved

*If crash cart is placed in patient room during resuscitation efforts all non-reusable items must be discarded and reusable items must be disinfected. In order to steward our resources, do not bring code carts into patient rooms.