**If you're seeing a patient who is coughing, is a non-fitted N95 mask better than a surgical mask?**

This is up for debate within the clinical community. One suggestion is to have a surgical mask and a face shield, which may provide better protection.

**Can screening of patients be done verbally or does it need to be documented using an electronic or paper form?**

Most people would recommend that you can do the questions verbally but that there is Documentation of the screening should be entered in the patient’s electronic record.

**At a private doctor's office can we wear just surgical masks for non-surgical visits?**

As long as both you and the patient have masks on, guidelines appear to support this practice. One point to consider is whether cloth masks that patients may come in wearing are enough protection during an exam. The suggestion was made to give patients masks from your office that go around their nose, to keep you both safe during the exam.

**When doing procedures do we need to wear the N95 mask? Does it have to be CDC certified?**

N95 is for any procedure that is aerolized. Even doing a COVID test is an aerolized procedure. There was not certainty about certification. Because this is an evolving situation that changes on the daily basis. The recommendation was to have someone designated in the office to go on the DPH and CDC sites weekly to be sure your practice is always up to date.

**Is having a patient take a deep breath for a lung exam considered to be aerolizing?**

There is not general agreement in the clinical community around this question. If you are masked and the patient is masked, that may be enough protection. One point to consider is whether cloth masks that patients may come in wearing are enough protection during an exam. The suggestion was made to give patients masks from your office that go around their nose, to keep you both safe during the exam.

**Under what criteria can we allow someone without a mask to enter our office?**

The plan only outlines that allowances can be made for patients or companions under special circumstances. For all practices, the suggestion is that practices have a written policy in place that outlines under what circumstances they will allow a patient or companion to walk into their office without a mask.

**What are the requirements for documentation of staff temperatures?**

There is not a published requirement, but in your written policies you should document how you are handling this requirement (asking staff and documenting, or having written forms).

**Are there different requirements for cleaning exam rooms after seeing a potential COVID-19 patients and non-COVID-19 patients?**

Yes the requirements are different so you should reference the CDC website so that you are aware of the differences. If your office layout allows, you might designate COVID and non-COVID rooms.

**Will the slides be available online? Will the Attestation form be available on the PPLLC web site?**

Both the slides and the Attestation Form are available on the PPLLC website. We have also posted an informative document from DPH. All of these can be found on the Updates section.