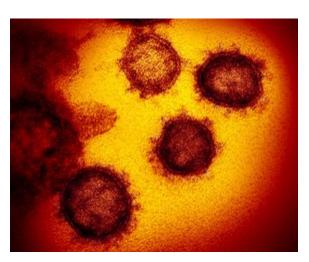


## Safety During Covid-19: How Eye Care Has Changed



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## 1. Worker & Patient Safety

Starts before the patient comes to the office!

- Pt called to make sure they wear mask
- Are told no one can come into the building
- Are screened for symptoms
- Tell them to pay co-pay online

If symptoms, Doctor decides how urgent.

https://www.aao.org/practice-management/article/pre-encounter-patient-communication-improves-effic



### Arriving at the office

- Screening station at every entrance.
- Suggestions for screening protocol:
  - Ask if they have symptoms?
  - Ask if they have been with someone who is sick?
  - Take their temperature

## In the office: Healthy Patient

- Physical Distancing at check in check-in and the waiting room
- Any problems, contact the Doctor

### In the office: Sick Patient

- Designate an "isolation" room
- Patients should have N95 mask\* & face shield
- Workers should have N95 mask, face shield, gown, gloves

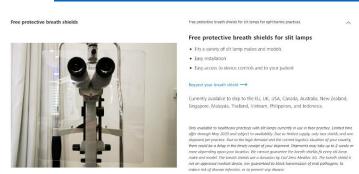
## **During the Exam**

- Mask
- Gloves
- Slit lamp shield
- No talking during exam
- Only necessary individuals in exam room



## **During the Exam**

- Face shield from manufacturer or home made
- https://www.zeiss.com/meditec/int/med-support-now.html





### After the Exam

- Disinfect room and all equipment
- Wash hands soap & water or alcohol based sanitizer
- Wash Face shield



## What we tell patients

- Avoid eye rubbing/touching face
- If you do, wash hands
- Stock up on eye drops
- Glasses do afford some protection
- Contact lenses are OK but require touch, so better to wear glasses.



### **Equipment Disinfection**

#### Masks



# Nonperioperative N95 Mask Reuse Checklist

#### Goal

Reuse N95 masks based upon CDC guidelines for pandemic COVID-19 of five donning and doffing uses.

#### Definition:

A "use" is defined as applying a reusable N95 mask to employee's face and removing it. If an employee used the mask for the entire day for multiple cases without removal, it would count as one use.

#### Standard Operating Procedure

- 1. Employee must be fit tested specifically for the N95 mask available in their work area prior to use.
- 2. When donning, place reusable N95 mask on. Place a simple mask over top of the N95 mask.
- 3. When doffing, remove the simple mask and discard.
- 4. Perform hand hygiene.
- 5. Remove the N95 mask by touching the outer elastic band.
- 6. Place the used N95 mask in a brown paper bag.
- 7. Perform hand hygiene.
- 8. Label the bag with employee name and tally for the time used. Each time the reusable N95 mask is worn and removed, add one tally to the employee brown bag.
- 9. Discard N95 mask after five uses.

## **Applanation Tonometer Tips**

- Sodium hypochlorite (dilute bleach)
- Wipe clean tonometer tips
- Disinfect them by immersing for 5 to 10 minutes in either 5000 ppm chlorine or 70% ethyl alcohol."
- Five thousand parts per million is equivalent to 1:20 household bleach.

Source: AAO





#### From Zeiss: VF Bowl

 70% alcohol, but please refer to the device user manual for a list of other appropriate cleaning and disinfecting agents.

The HFA bowl is a specialized surface. It is not intended to be regularly cleaned. Any
frequent contact could degrade the reflective surface of the bowl, which can damage
the device and impact performance.

www.zeiss.com/meditec/int/med-support-now.html

#### **Visual Field Bowl**

- Dr. Douglas Anderson: don't touch the interior of the bowl, it could alter its reflectivity resulting in aberrant test results. Virus particles will not leap off the bowl onto the patient.
- Sanitize the surfaces that contact the patient chin rest, forehead rest, response button, table top.
- Patient should wear mask.

### **Optos Devices**

- Optos current recommendation is to use 70% IPA wipes to disinfect areas with patient contact.
- They continue to monitor the industry standards as well as guidance from sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).





## **Eye Drop Bottles**

- Wear gloves when handling bottles and wipe clean with alcohol wipes or another disinfectant.
- Same technician uses same bottle.
  - Wipes bottle with alcohol or cidex.
  - Care is ALWAYS used not to touch lids with tip of bottle.
  - Our rule is (now and always) if tip touches eyelid, then discard.