

# EMORY

## HEALTHCARE

### **WARM ZONE MODEL**

IMPLEMENTATION, ZONES, AND ROLES

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# INTRODUCTION

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# GOAL

- Institute a warm zone model on inpatient nursing units
- Maintain staff safety while also reducing PPE burden and burn rate
  - Extended use of gowns
  - Gown conservation
  - Time saved by reducing frequency of PPE donning and doffing during a shift
    - Reduction in self-contamination risk
  - Improved teamwork

# REDUCING PPE USE

- Staff in Orientation
  - Either the preceptor or the orientee enter patient room, not both
- Meal trays
  - Staff are proactive with helping patients order trays in a timely manner, so all trays are delivered at the same time
  - Please remind patients to order extra drinks (sports drink, juice, etc)
- Clustering care
  - Calling ahead before going in to see if the patient needs anything
  - Gathering any equipment, supplies or meds
- Total Care Nursing:
  - With a resource available to provide any necessary items – there is an opportunity for the RN to complete all task (VS, POC BG, Meds, Assessment)

# INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

- Rounds
  - Conduct multidisciplinary rounds in the cold zone
  - Providers utilize warm zone bridging during assessments
- Radiology, Lab/Phlebotomy, Respiratory Therapy and Environmental Services
  - If staffing allows, have on individual donned and a second as a resource
  - Use warm zones to bridge between patients

# COLD ZONE

- Donning
- Care team station
- Resource Individual
- Workstation on wheels (WOW)
- Unit traffic/egress flow
- Meal delivery cart
- Linen cart
- Code BLUE and resuscitation carts

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# WARM ZONE

- Minimal to no clean PPE stored in this area
  - Gloves, mounted on wall – if supplies permits
- Trash cans
- People bridging rooms in appropriate PPE
- Over bed table with “clean” and “dirty” sides marked
- Zone Cleaning
  - Individual cleaning is wearing a mask and gloves
    - Resource individual cleans over bed table after handing off items into the warm zone
    - Resource individual cleans warm zone between bridges and after terminal doffing
  - Environmental services
    - Cleans area at least q12hr or as needed

# HOT ZONE

- Patient's room and care area
- Keep doors closed as much as possible
- Doffing
  - Gloves while bridging between rooms
  - Terminal doff at the completion of care for last patient

# TERMINOLOGY

- Bridging
  - Moving between multiple patient rooms after initial donning
- Donned Clinician/Technician
  - Individual who is donned into hot zone
- Resource Individual
  - Clinician or technician in cold zone
- Buddy
  - Second individual donned into hot zone

# EQUIPMENT

- **What should I do with equipment that has been taken into the hot zone but needs to be used in another room?**
  - Following isolation precautions, for properly using and cleaning equipment
  - Equipment cleaned in the hot zone will be placed on the “dirty” side of the over bed table
  - A resource individual will clean the equipment again and safely return it to the cold zone
- **Can I take any equipment with me from one COVID room to another, through the warm zone?**
  - No, equipment must be cleaned between patients. Please be mindful of your unit restrictions on what can be stored within the warm zone.

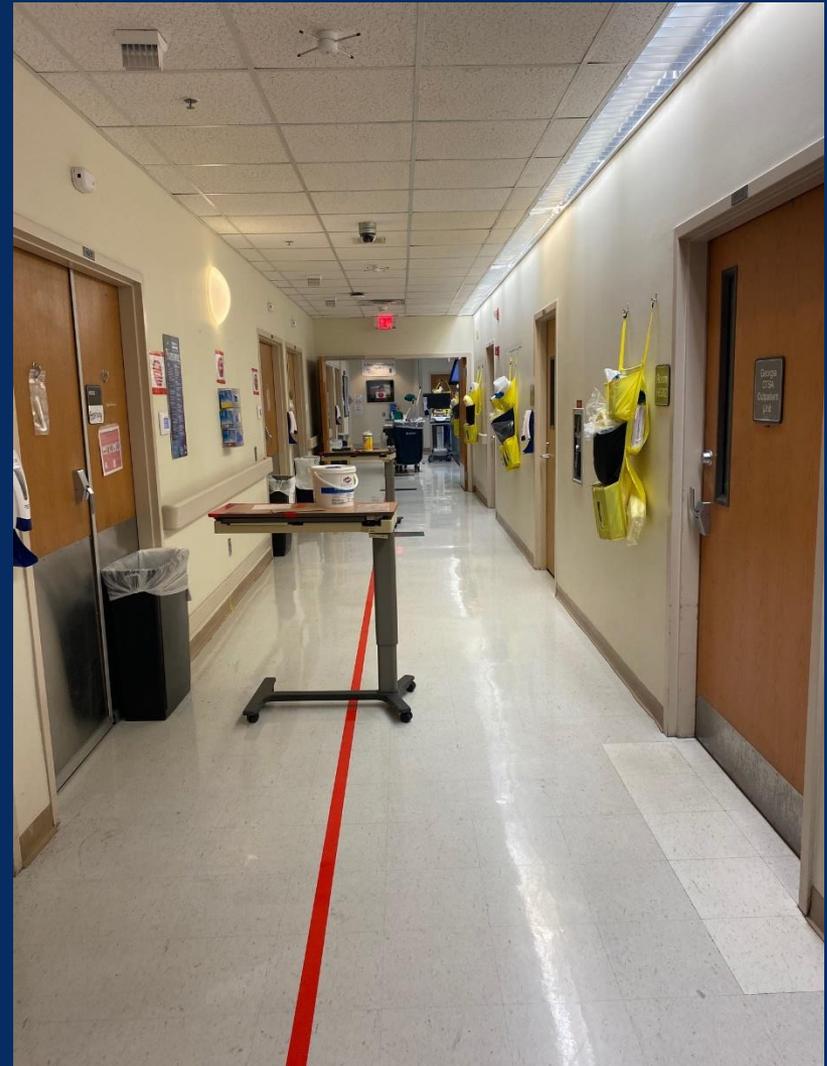
# IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION  
ZONE ASSIGNMENTS

# IMPLEMENTATION

- Partner with Infection Prevention and Infectious Disease colleagues
  - Map out area that will serve as warm zone
  - Build a zone model for nursing and tech assignments
  - Move non-confirmed patients off nursing unit, model will only work with COVID+ patients
- Clear supplies and equipment from warm zone
  - Code carts
  - Linen carts
  - Meal delivery carts
  - WOWs
- Collaborate with facilities
  - Identify a way to store PPE outside of the warm zone
  - Install glove holders inside the warm zone
  - Relocate any WOW charging stations inside the warm zone
  - Assemble over-bed tables, or surface on wheels to pass items into warm zone
  - Post signage
- Communication
  - Ancillary departments awareness
  - Safety in and around warm zone

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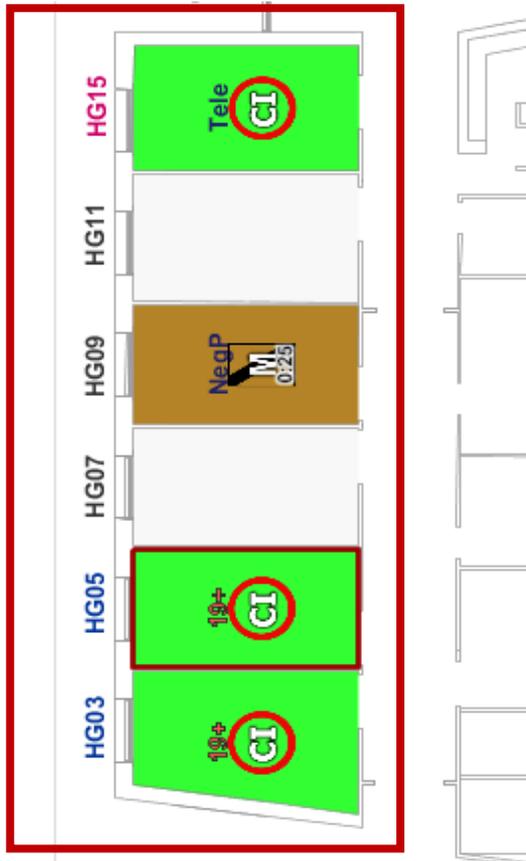


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# ZONE ASSIGNMENTS



- Two RNs assigned per zone
  - Donned and Resource Clinician
- Zone is a consecutive block of rooms
- Nurse to patient ratios are predetermined based off unit staffing model and hospital needs
- Tech to patient ratios are predetermined based off unit staffing model and hospital needs
- You cannot “bridge” after caring for a patient with co-infection (e.g. C. diff, RSV, CRE)



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# ACUTE CARE UNITS

BRIDGING - NURSING  
SUBESQUANT BRIDGES – NURSING  
BRIDGING - TECHNICIANS

# BRIDGING - NURSING

## RESOURCE CLINICIAN

- Hand off items
- Gather supplies or equipment
- Obtain meds for next patient
- Assist with patient documentation
- Anticipate needs of patient or donned clinician
- Remain available for donned clinician
- Clean warm zone

## DONNED CLINICIAN

- Assessments
- Medications
- Vital Signs
- POC BG

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# SUBSEQUENT BRIDGES - NURSING

## RESOURCE CLINICIAN

- Hand off items
- Gather supplies or equipment
- Obtain meds for next patient
- Assist with patient documentation
- Anticipate needs of patient or donned clinician
- Remain available for donned clinician
- Clean warm zone

## DONNED CLINICIAN

- All patients in zone
- Focused reassessment
- Medications

# BRIDGING - TECHNICIAN

## RESOURCE INDIVIDUAL

- Hand off items
- Gather supplies or equipment
- Assist with patient documentation
- Anticipate needs of patient or donned technician
- Remain available for donned technician
- Clean warm zone

## DONNED TECHNICIAN

- All patients in zone
- VS
- POC BG
- Bathing, linen changes
- Tray delivery

# CRITICAL CARE UNITS

BRIDGING - NURSING  
TASKS THAT REQUIRE A BUDDY

# BRIDGING - NURSING

## RESOURCE CLINICIAN

- Hand off items
- Gather supplies or equipment
- Obtain meds for next patient
- Assist with patient documentation
- Anticipate needs of patient or donned clinician
- Remain available for donned clinician
- Clean warm zone

## DONNED CLINICIAN

- Assigned 1-2 patients
- Assuring room safety
  - Alarms
- Assessments
- Medications
  - Administration, titration, pump management
- Data Collection:
  - Hemodynamic monitoring, POC, intake and output
- Specimen collection
- Turns, hygiene and oral care
- Device management
  - CRRT, Airway, minimally invasive hemodynamic monitoring
- Quality index bundles

# TASKS THAT REQUIRE A BUDDY

## RESOURCE CLINICIAN

- Hand off items
- Gather supplies or equipment
- Obtain meds for next patient
- Assist with patient documentation
- Anticipate needs of patient or donned clinician
- Remain available for donned clinician
- Clean warm zone
  - After terminal doff

## DONNED CLINICIAN and BUDDY

- Bathing and Q2Hour Turning
  - Both individuals don
  - Prepare and bring any necessary supplies into the room
  - Complete as many patients as possible during a single bridge