

10/16/2020 – Universal Eye Protection

Please see below announcement that was just sent to all medical staff requiring the use of universal eye protection in patient interactions. All students were issued a face shield, you will need to use it as instructed below. Students must follow the same rules as all hospital staff.

In efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 and protect health care workers, the NYS DOH has revised guidance on what is considered an exposure. Staff members wearing masks, without eye protection, spending time in a room with a patient who was not wearing a mask and the patient subsequently tests positive for COVID-19 is now considered an exposure and will require the staff member to be tested twice a week for COVID-19 if considered an essential worker.

In order to provide a safer environment for our staff and patients, the Infection Prevention and Infectious Disease teams at University Hospital will be implementing the use of universal eye protection (hospital provided face shield or eye wear) for all patient care regardless of duration of patient interaction. This applies to all Hospital and Ambulatory areas, and all staff working in clinical areas/patient rooms whether there is direct patient contact or entering an environment where patients are being cared for.

Also, we are strongly recommending that patients wear a mask for all healthcare interactions if they are able to do so.

GO-live is Monday 10/19/2020