

MEMO

Date: April 22, 2020

To: Provincial Surgery Site/Regional Leadership

From: Lee Heinrichs, Provincial Integration Lead and Acute Planning Director for provincial incident command

Re: **PPE Supply Management in Surgery**

Dear Colleagues,

Please note the following guidelines supported by the Provincial Medical Specialty Leads for surgery, Dr Ed Buchel and anesthesia, Dr Chris Christodoulou, to support PPE conservation in the operating room:

1. Anesthesia attending will lead the preoperative huddle. PPE for each team member will be based on the [Provincial Personal Protective Equipment Requirements](#). This will be verified by Anesthesia attending and agreed to by all members prior to the start of the case.
2. Staffing from an anesthesia, surgical and nursing perspective should be kept to the minimum necessary for the case in the room. In applicable, the anesthesia assistant and "runner" outside the room should be identified and their roles defined.
3. It is essential the donning and doffing of PPE is appropriately done and witnessed. It is recommended to have an audit process to ensure PPE conservation and appropriate use.
4. If possible, please minimize (ideally eliminate) breaks during the case, and movement out of the room to facilitate conservation of PPE.

Thank you for your cooperation and diligence.