Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to help clarify some questions regarding PPE training as we head into a rotation change. Thanks to the hospital sites, who have agreed to take on the important role of PPE training relevant to the local context as part of on-boarding. I have heard in my informal discussions with programs and residents that some ambiguity has remained. Recognizing that we have not over-designed the process out of respect for local variations, I offer the following recommendations:

1. Most residents entering block two will have had basic practical training at their block one site; all will have done the on-line module via PGME. Rotating residents will need the opportunity to 'refresh' or 'revise' their knowledge of basic PPE specific to your site.
   a. Basic PPE training can be done by anybody with knowledge of local procedures: staff physicians, senior residents, unit-based PPE champions.

2. Some residents (code teams, ICU, CTU, ED, etc) may be expected to attend to aerosol-generating medical procedures and thus require protected code blue training. The site rotation coordinators must be responsible for identifying who those residents are, and determining if they need training.
   a. Protected code blue/AGMP training can be split into PPE practices (i.e. N95, eye protection, etc) and medical treatment variations (i.e. avoid Bag-valve-mask ventilation if possible). The medical treatment variations in place at each site should be part of the orientation/education given by the clinical leads on the unit. The PPE practices can be done at the unit level or centrally, by anybody knowledgeable about local procedures. These components can be combined into one training session but do not need to be.
   
   b. The use of a simulation centre may be the ideal means to provide comprehensive training and practice for code blues, but it is not necessary that the training occur in a sim centre; the PPE should include practical training but the medical content can be didactic at the discretion of the sites.
   
   c. resources for Code Blue PPE and medical interventions can be found on the PGME website: COVID-19 resources
Thanks, all, for your ongoing collaboration on this complex but important issue. I hope the forgoing is helpful.

Sincerely,

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