What to do if you are concerned about an infection control risk at work:

- **Calmly express your concerns to the Site Manager or nurse in charge.**
- **If you feel your concerns have not been adequately addressed please contact the Carestaff Allocations team and ask to speak with a manager.**
- **The Carestaff Clinical Nurse Consultant will seek to address your concerns directly with the site.**

PPE should be used according to the Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019)2.

More information can be found here -
http://cec.health.nsw.gov.au/keep-patients-safe/COVID-19/personal-protective-equipment

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KEEPING COVID-SAFE AT WORK

Many healthcare sites will have varying policies on the management of infection control and workplace safety. Our preference is always to work with sites to make sure all staff and patients are cared for and safe.

In order to achieve this ensure you communicate your concerns in a professional and polite manner.

Let's work together to keep each other safe.

- Never agree to share or reuse PPE.
- Never go to work if you suspect you might have come into contact with Covid-19 and or are suffering from any symptoms.
- Always follow relevant state government Covid Safe directives.
- Always speak up if you have any concerns about inadequate infection control measures.
- If in doubt do contact your Carestaff Clinical Nurse Consultant and ask for advice.

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Unwell health and aged care workers

Healthcare and aged care workers with acute respiratory infections must not work while unwell.

Health care and aged care workers who are unwell with respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat), fever, history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), or other symptoms such as loss of taste and loss smell, should isolate and be tested for COVID-19.

If you start to feel unwell, please notify Carestaff immediately.

Reference: https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/04/cdna-guidance-for-symptom-monitoring-in-health-and-aged-care-workers-during-the-covid-19-outbreak.pdf

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Protection in aged care facilities:

Please ensure your following th belowe Routine IPC measures relevant to any infectious disease risk.

- **Hand hygiene using soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitiser (e.g. after going to the toilet, coughing, blowing the nose and before eating). Additional hand hygiene is required when caring for a resident with a respiratory infection.**
- **Appropriate use of PPE3 especially when caring for a resident with a respiratory infection. Cough etiquette and respiratory hygiene for staff, residents (if possible) and visitors.**
- **Frequent cleaning and disinfection (at least daily) of floors and surfaces. More frequent cleaning of frequently touched or soiled surfaces.**
- **Isolating or cohorting residents confirmed to have an infection caused by the same pathogen.**
- **Annual influenza vaccination of residents, staff and all visitors to RCFs.**
- **Standard contact and droplet precautions when caring for a resident with a respiratory infection.**
- **Limiting unnecessary movement of residents and staff within and between facilities.**

Reference:
https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/07/coronavirus-covid-19-guidelines-for-infection-prevention-and-control-in-residential-care-facilities.pdf

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For training and resources:

https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training