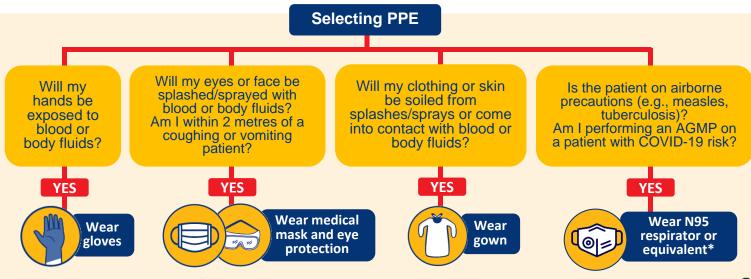
## **Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)**

The point of care risk assessment (PCRA) is a routine practice which should be conducted before every patient/client/resident (hereafter 'patient') interaction by a trained health care worker (HCW) to assess the likelihood of exposing themselves and/or others to infectious agents. This assessment informs the selection of appropriate actions and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to minimize the risk of exposure. This is a general tool. The questions and actions may need to be adapted for specific health care settings and roles.

may need to be adapted for specific health care settings and roles. Before each patient interaction, an HCW must assess the following: THE PATIENT What are the patient's symptoms (e.g., frequent coughing or sneezing)? Does the patient require additional precautions (contact/droplet/airborne) for other diseases? What is the patient's health status (e.g., immunocompromised)? Is the patient able to practice respiratory etiquette and perform hand hygiene? THE TASK What type of task am I carrying out (e.g., providing direct face-to-face care, performing an aerosol generating medical procedure), coming into contact with body fluids, personal care, non-clinical interaction)? Am I trained, equipped and ready for the task? THE ENVIRONMENT Where am I doing my task? Is there triage or screening? Is the client in a separate room? Is the bathroom shared? Can physical distancing be maintained? Is there adequate environmental cleaning and disinfection? Choose appropriate actions and PPE including the following: Hand hygiene (e.g., before and after a task, before and after PPE use, before and after contact with patient). ☐ **Respiratory etiquette** (e.g., support patient to cover their coughs with a tissue or their elbow). ☐ **Patient separation** (e.g., prioritize the patient for a single room). ☐ **Physical distancing** (e.g., encourage patient to maintain a 2 metre physical distance if direct care is not involved). ☐ Environmental and equipment cleaning and disinfection (e.g., clean re-usable equipment between each use). ☐ Implement Additional Precautions if required (e.g., Droplet and Contact precautions for COVID-19). ☐ Select appropriate pieces of PPE, as below and per the *Provincial Mask Use in Health Care Settings Policy*. Selecting PPE



\*HCW must be fit-tested and trained in performing the aerosol-generating medical procedure (AGMP).





