# Standard Operating Procedure

**Modality:** Nuclear Medicine/PET-CT  
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**Location:**  
1855 4th Street, Mission Bay Hospital  
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**Title:** NM/PET-CT Scanning ED/Inpatients COVID-19+/PUI Workflow, Mission Bay

## Precautions/Isolation Types:

- **Novel Respiratory Isolation with Negative Pressure** = Airborne/contact precautions – N95 or PAPR, face shield, gown, gloves  
  - Video: [UCSF Donning/Doffing Video](#)
- **Respiratory Illness Evaluation without Negative Pressure** = Droplet/contact precautions – surgical mask, face shield, gown, gloves  
  - Document: [UCSF Donning/Doffing PDF](#)
- **UCSF Guidelines on PPE Reuse**
- **All PPE supplies needed can be located in C1730. There are yellow isolation gowns, regular masks, N95s, eye protection and gloves.**
- **Patients on airborne precautions (Novel respiratory isolation with negative pressure isolation) should not undergo ventilation lung scans. This is considered a high hazard medical procedure due to mask having to be removed and use of an aerosolized medication. There is high potential risk to the technologist and contamination of all surfaces in the scan room. In most cases the study should not be performed or only perfusion imaging should be performed.**

## Pre-Imaging Tasks:

- Once exam is ordered, technologist will discuss with the patient’s nurse the isolation status and determine time patient will be seen. At this time technologist should explain how procedure occurs and duration of the exam as a standard nuclear medicine exam typically takes 45+ minutes and involves using an IV line.
- If a V/Q is requested, please consult with the attending nuclear medicine physician and/or the ordering medical team. For the pediatric patient, a Tc-MAA Quantitative Lung Perfusion is usually ordered without the need for aerosol.

## Imaging Workflow:

- **PET-CT** patients require peripheral IV or Port access prior to blood glucose check & injection of fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG).
• Nuclear Medicine Rooms are not negative pressure, which means that patients under novel respiratory isolation with negative pressure will need to be seen in the last time slot of the day, typically 1500-1600.

• Lead Technologist will contact nurse to schedule patient for Nuclear Medicine Procedure and discuss transportation of the patient to Nuclear Medicine.

• Patient will be transported to NM/PET-CT first floor Radiology.

• If no RN monitoring necessary, hospital transport will bring patient down. NM will create the request conveying isolation status in the transport request.

• Patient must come down wearing all appropriate PPE including a mask. The mask will not be able to be removed during the study, patient must wear at all times.

• Patient will be transported directly into imaging suite and doors will closed.

• **Staff should wear ALL appropriate PPE when in contact with patient (review link for donning/doffing PPE)**
  - PPE for **Novel Respiratory Isolation With Negative Pressure** = N95 or PAPR + Face shield + Gown
  - PPE for **Respiratory Illness Evaluation Without Negative Pressure** = Mask + Face shield + Gown

• If staffing permits, 2 NM technologists scan patient
  - 1 ‘clean’ tech remains in **control room** wearing N95/PAPR or Mask + face shield (based on isolation precautions above)
  - 1 ‘dirty’ tech in **scan room** to prep patient for scan wearing ALL appropriate PPE based on isolation precautions above
  - Hand hygiene & appropriate PPE donned prior to patient arrival
  - Prepare room with all supplies needed for NM exam including isotope to minimize opening cabinets/drawers while patient in scan room.
  - Patient enters room – ‘dirty’ tech preps patient on NM table and moves gantry into position, injects and starts imaging
  - ‘Clean’ technologist will operate the camera from inside the control room if needed
  - ‘Dirty’ tech will remain in room until scan is complete if possible, if CT is needed dirty technologist should exit the room and wait for CT to be complete
  - ‘Clean’ tech will let dirty tech know when it is safe to enter the room to move patient off imaging table
  - Once scan is complete patient will remain in camera room until transport arrives to take patient back upstairs.
  - Post imaging cleaning completed per isolation precautions after patient departure. For patients under novel respiratory isolation, gowns and gloves should be donned whenever entering scan room during 1 hour downtime and doffed prior to exiting scan room. N95 + face shield or PAPR should remain in place for entire 1 hour period while in control room or scan room.

• If staffing does not permit, 1 tech will scan patient
  - Hand hygiene & appropriate PPE donned prior to patient arrival
  - Prepare room with all supplies needed for NM exam to minimize opening cabinets/drawers while patient in scan room.
  - Patient enters room/tech preps patient on NM table
Before entering NM/PET-CT control room (C1723), gown/gloves are doffed & hand hygiene performed.

Mask/face shield to remain on
- After NM scan is complete, hand hygiene is performed & gown/gloves are donned to move patient from NM table
- Once scan is complete patient will remain in camera room until transport arrives to take patient back upstairs.
- Post imaging cleaning completed per isolation precautions after patient departure. For patients under novel respiratory isolation, gowns and gloves should be donned whenever entering scan room during 1 hour downtime and doffed prior to exiting scan room. N95 + face shield or PAPR should remain in place for entire 1 hour period while in control room or scan room.

Post-Imaging Tasks:

- After scanning patients under Novel Respiratory Isolation With Negative Pressure isolation status, NM/PET-CT scanner will remain out of use for a minimum of ONE hour – signage will be placed so no one can enter room
  - Techs will clean all surfaces after one hour – while wearing appropriate PPE
  - Green top Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes will be used to clean all surfaces—dwell time = 1 minute
  - Technologist should doff gown and gloves in scan room following cleaning.
  - N95 and face shield or PAPR should be doffed following guidelines for reuse if possible or discarded if not possible.
  - NO HIGH CLEAN NEEDED
  - Signs are located in the control room C1723

- After scanning patients under a Respiratory Illness Evaluation Without Negative Pressure, NM scanner and control room may be cleaned immediately
  - Techs will clean all surfaces— while wearing appropriate PPE
  - Green top Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes will be used to clean all surfaces—dwell time = 1 minute
  - Technologist should doff gown and gloves in scan room following cleaning.
  - N95 and face shield or PAPR should be doffed following guidelines for reuse if possible or discarded if not possible.
  - NO HIGH CLEAN NEEDED