Plan for mask use in the operating room and operative area.

Given the concern for potential spread of virus during operative procedures and the lack of pre-operative patient testing available OR leadership has decided to consider all cases as potentially contaminated.

Therefore, an increased level of protection will be required within the operative area. Given the information available regarding the re-use of the N95 masks we will implement the below described process.

1. All surgeons, anesthesia providers, and operating room staff will wear an N95 mask upon entering the OR suites (beyond the red line). You should wear a disposable standard OR mask over the top of the N95 mask. This will prolong the life of the N95 and will prevent external soiling.
2. Your N95 masks will be obtained at the beginning of each day from the preoperative holding area located between the front desk and anesthesia offices.
3. If you are leaving the operative area the N95 mask should be removed and returned to the mask storage area in the preoperative holding area. The mask will be placed in a paper bag with your name on it and held securely at that location until the next time you need it. If you are staying within the operative area you may retain the mask until the end of the day.
4. Mask fit will be tested weekly on Monday to ensure that the mask is still functional. Each mask will be replaced after one month of use or when no longer passing the fit test.
5. Cases being performed on the ASU west side that are considered positive or highly suspicious for COVID-19 will have a new N95 mask for each case. These masks will be collected after the procedure.

All surgeons and OR staff that do not currently have a N95 mask should arrange to obtain one and have a fit test performed before their next case. Fit testing will be performed by OR staff and can be arranged at the front desk.