

Q: If the classroom has windows, would it be advisable to crack them open during the class. Also if the class doesn't have windows, would a fan circulating help? Is there guidance on having fans in the classrooms?

A: Open windows are OK and help increase the air exchange rate. If you have a venting fan taking air out of the room, that is a good thing. If it is aimed toward students and staff, that is not helpful. Work with the building/maintenance staff to find the safest plan.

Q: If we do not have a nurse at each building full time, can a secretary make the decision to send them home or does the nurse need to see the student to do the assessment and decision - a delegation question

A: You should follow state regulations on nurse delegation.

Q: How are nebulizer treatments being handled during the school day?

A: This is an aerosol-generating procedure; it makes a lot of mist. Use an MDI with spacer if possible instead of a nebulizer. If not possible, nebulizer treatments should be used in an isolation room with the nurse in appropriate PPE (mask, eye protection, face shield, gown, gloves); open a window and shut the door if possible and do not stand directly in front of the student if they can hold it themselves. Doctors can prescribe more puffs (up to 8 generally) if needed.

Q: What about the student who has an asthma plan allowing self medication with an inhaler? Is this still ok?

A: Inhalers do not make the same aerosolized mist as a nebulizer, so using an inhaler with a spacer is preferred.

Q: Is 2 hours the guidance for post nebulizer treatment?

A: Yes, 1-2 hours (preferably two) and make sure the room is cleaned between use.

Q: The CDC states a significant exposure to someone with COVID is spending more than 15 minutes with the person within a six foot distance. Does the 15 minutes of exposure mean exposure all at one time or accumulative exposure?

A: All at once

Q: Neck gaiters? Are they less effective or equal to masks?

A: Neck gaiters are a cross between a bandana and a mask. Air does not scoop down the bottom. They can be more comfortable for some. More importantly, have more than one mask available when the first one gets dirty.

Q: Should we be banning the face masks with exhaust valves?

A: These are not advised. They blow air out freely and can infect others. Put another mask over if worn or put a filter in it if possible.

Q: When students and staff remove their face covering during lunch how and where are you instructing them to store it until it is time to put it back on?

A: Wash hands or use hand sanitizer to remove the mask; put the outside of the mask down on a paper towel or piece of paper (face down) then wash hands or use hand sanitizer. It put it back on, wash or sanitize hands before picking it up to put back on face. Lanyards or fanny packs are helpful too. In general, try to put the front (dirty side) the same way each time you put it down so dirty touches dirty.