



EMERGENCY OXYGEN UTILIZATION POLICY for COVID-19 PATIENTS

The following directive by Roberto Solis, MD, Chief of Pulmonary Services of St. Joseph's Health is effective immediately. This policy was reviewed and approved by Robert Lahita, MD, Chair of Medicine, and Joseph Duffy Sr., MD, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer

- 1. All patients diagnosed with Covid-19 shall require both Pulmonary and Infectious Disease Consultation*
- 2. High Flow Oxygen will be ordered (and managed) by Pulmonary Consultant only*
- 3. Oxygen Protocol will follow the following escalation and treatment flow:*

*-Patients requiring **6 or more liters of O2** will initially transition to **Venti Mask (VM) or Oxy Mask** (note: contraindicated in CO2 retainers): **Titrate O2 Saturation to 92%. Once 100% FiO2 has been reached with VM or Oxy Mask, patient may then be transitioned to high flow oxygen.***

*-BIPAP is to be used for **hypercapnic respiratory failure or in circumstances when High Flow is not available in normocapnic or hypocapnic individuals who have exhausted the above protocol.***

*-BIPAP and high flow is **not** to utilized on the same patient. Recommend utilizing alternate VM (when eating) with BIPAP.*

**These measures are instituted to insure the proper allocation of oxygen modalities during emergency circumstances with the understanding that some oxygen modalities may become scarce medical resources.*