

**CDC Response Regarding Nebulizer Treatments and Suctioning in the School
Setting During Covid-19**
July 19, 2021

CDC recommends the school nurse perform these procedures wearing an N95 mask and eye protection. Further, assuming schools don't have negative air pressure rooms, these procedures should be performed in a separate room located in a low traffic setting within the school building.

Commonly performed medical procedures that are often considered AGPs (aerosol-generating procedures), or that create uncontrolled respiratory secretions, include:

- *open suctioning of airways*
- *sputum induction*
- *cardiopulmonary resuscitation*
- *endotracheal intubation and extubation*
- *non-invasive ventilation (e.g., BiPAP, CPAP)*
- *bronchoscopy*
- *manual ventilation*

Based on limited available data, it is uncertain whether aerosols generated from some procedures may be infectious, such as:

- *nebulizer administration**
- *high flow O2 delivery*

**Aerosols generated by nebulizers are derived from medication in the nebulizer. It is uncertain whether potential associations between performing this common procedure and increased risk of infection might be due to aerosols generated by the procedure or due to increased contact between those administering the nebulized medication and infected patients.*

References related to aerosol generating procedures: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3338532/#!po=72.2222>