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Meet the Inventors

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Department

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Intubation tent to protect healthcare workers from infected patients

Value Proposition

Under the current COVID crisis, health care workers need protection against respiratory infections transmitted by patients undergoing treatment. Patients undergoing intubation for surgery or prior to being placed on a ventilator can expose healthcare workers to respiratory viruses through coughing before intubation or after removal of the breathing tube. Patients with respiratory infections come to the operating room with respiratory/surgical masks on. The patients are started on anesthesia before the patient masks are removed. After the patient mask is removed, there is a critical period when any patient cough or sneezing has the potential to infect the entire OR staff. During this critical period, it would be ideal to have a physical barrier between the patient and healthcare staff.

Technology

Duke inventors are developing a physical barrier to protect healthcare staff from patients' coughing and sneezing during windows of treatment when they would otherwise be unprotected.

COVID-19 Application

This invention can protect healthcare staff from developing COVID-19 by protecting them from exposure to patients carrying the coronavirus.

