



Personal Protective Equipment Donning and Doffing

Standard Precautions

Standard Precautions are based on the principle that all blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions (except sweat), broken skin, and mucous membranes may be infected, and the infection can be spread.

Equipment or items in the patient's/resident's environment likely to have been contaminated (or have the presence of) blood or body fluids must be handled with caution and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after use.

Standard Precautions include:

- hand hygiene
- use of personal protective equipment (or PPE)
- safe injection practices with special procedures for lumbar punctures
- respiratory hygiene
- cough etiquette

All of these practices prevent the spread of infection.



Hazard Assessment

Choosing proper PPE begins by knowing the hazards present.

- A Hazard Assessment is done prior to every job to decide if hazards are present.
- Check for hazards to:
 - Eyes and Face
 - Respiratory System
 - Hands
 - Feet
 - Clothing
 - Head



Proper PPE is essential because infections can be acquired and spread between patients/residents, staff, and visitors.

Then decide what PPE will protect against those hazards.

Personal Protective Equipment GLOVES

- Gloves should be worn when you are likely to have contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, broken skin, mucous membranes, or potentially contaminated intact skin (for example, the skin of a person incontinent of stool or urine).
- Gloves should fit and be appropriate for the task.
- Gloves should be removed after contact with a patient/resident and/or the surrounding environment using a technique that prevents hand contamination.
- You should not wear the same pair of gloves for the care of more than one person or wash gloves for the purpose of reuse.
- You should change gloves during care when your hands move from a contaminated body-site to a clean body-site.
- After removing gloves, remember to perform hand hygiene.



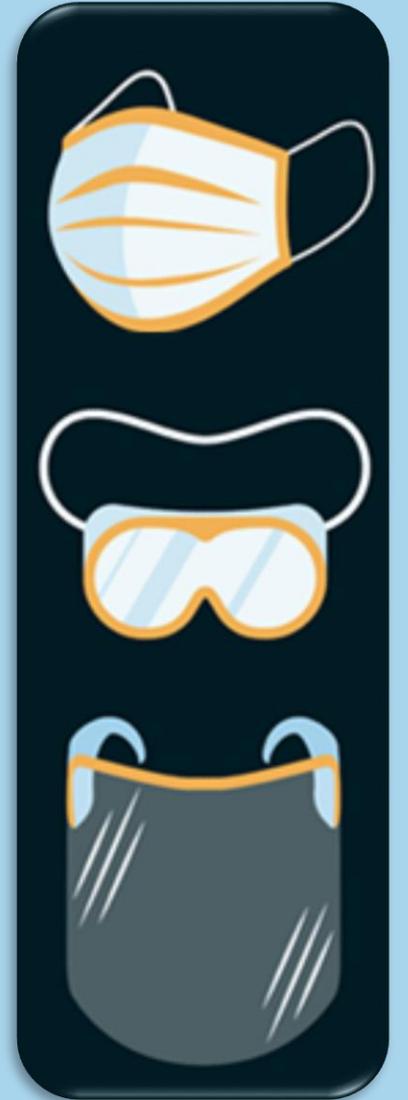
Personal Protective Equipment GOWNS

- Gowns should be worn when it is likely that blood, body fluids, secretions, or excretions may touch your skin or soil your clothing.
- Remove the gown using a technique that prevents contact with your skin or clothing, discard and perform hand hygiene before leaving the patient's/resident's environment.
- Do not reuse gowns, even for repeated contact with the same person.



Personal Protective Equipment

- Use PPE to protect your eyes, nose and mouth during procedures and care activities that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions.
- Select masks, goggles, face shields, and/or combinations of each.
- Remove, discard (as appropriate) and perform hand hygiene before leaving the patient's/resident's environment.



The recommended PPE donning sequence is as follows:

Don PPE before patient contact and generally before entering the patient room. Once it is on, use PPE carefully to avoid contamination.

1. Don Gown

- Select the appropriate type and size.
- Perform hand hygiene.
- With the opening in the back, secure the gown at the neck and waist.
- If the gown is too small for full coverage, use two; the first with the opening in the front, and the second placed over it with the opening in the back.

2. Don Mask

- Place it over the nose, mouth and chin.
- Fit the flexible nose piece over the bridge of the nose.
- Secure it on the head with ties or elastic.
- Adjust it to fit.
- If the mask has two elastic head bands, these should be separated. With the mask over the nose, mouth and chin, stretch the bands over the head and secure them comfortably – one on the upper back of the head and one below the ears at the base of the neck.

3. Don Goggles and Face Shield

- Position goggles over the eyes and secure to the head using the ear pieces or headband.
- Position the face shield over the face and secure on brow with the headband.
- Adjust for comfort.
- Putting on a particulate respirator (like an N95, N99 or N100) is similar to donning a pre-formed mask with elastic head bands. Check manufacturers' instructions for any model-specific precautions and fit testing requirements.

4. Don Gloves

- Perform hand hygiene.
- Extend the hands into the gloves and extend the gloves to cover the wrist of the isolation gown.
- Tuck the cuffs of the gown securely under each glove.
- Adjust for comfort and dexterity.

The recommended PPE doffing sequence is as follows:

During removal, the goal is to avoid contamination of self or the environment with the contaminated equipment. Generally, the outside front and sleeves of a gown, the outside front of face protection and the outside of gloves are considered contaminated regardless of the appearance of visible soil.

1. Remove Gown

- Unfasten the ties.
- Peel the gown away from the neck and shoulder.
- Turn the contaminated side (the outside) toward the inside.
- Fold or roll the gown into a bundle.
- Discard in designated receptacle.

2. Remove Mask

- First untie the bottom, then the top tie.
- Lift the mask away from the face.
- Discard in designated receptacle.

3. Remove Respirator

- Remove the bottom strap by touching only the strap and bring it carefully over the head.
- Grasp the top strap and bring it carefully over the head
- Pull the respirator away from the face without touching the front of the respirator.

4. Remove Gloves

- Grasp the outside edge near the wrist.
- Peel the glove away from the hand, turning the glove inside out. Hold it in the opposite gloved hand.
- Slide an ungloved finger under the wrist of the remaining glove, then peel it off from the inside, creating a “bag” for both used gloves.
- Discard in designated receptacle.
- Perform hand hygiene.

Safety Culture

- Proper donning and removal of PPE is one basic step in a safety culture.
- A safety culture refers to a work environment where there is a shared commitment to safety on the part of management and employees.
- Several hospital studies have linked this shared commitment to safety with healthcare personnel adherence to safe work practices and reduced exposure to potentially infectious blood and body fluids.
- Building a strong safety culture is a means to enhance your infection prevention program.



If you have any questions, please contact:
Infection Prevention = 478-633-1828
Safety Compliance = 478-633-6037
Employee Health = 478-633-1547

Use the link below to access the test in IOTA
and complete this requirement:

[Donning and Doffing PPE Test](#)