

do one thing *differently*

Simple Strategies to Prevent C. diff

Use Personal Protective Equipment Properly

When used properly, personal protective equipment (PPE) prevents the spread of infection and helps keep patients, families and staff safe and healthy. However, hospitals must ensure they are donning and removing PPE carefully and in the right order. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers a variety of resources (<http://bit.ly/2xb4Wcr>) to educate providers and staff on the importance of using PPE properly. Share these tips with your team:



Sequence for Donning PPE

1. Gown First
2. Mask
3. Face Shield or Goggles
4. Gloves

* The Combination of PPE affects the sequence

Sequence for Removing PPE

1. Gloves
2. Face Shield or Goggles
3. Gown
4. Mask

Where to Remove PPE

1. At the doorway, before leaving patient room*
2. Remove mask outside room*

*Ensure that hand hygiene facilities are available at the point needed. If only gloves are worn as PPE, it is safe to remove and discard them in the patient room.

Think About It!

How many times have you seen someone adjust their glasses, rub their nose or touch their face while wearing gloves that have been in contact with a patient? Surfaces such as light switches, door and cabinet knobs can also become contaminated if touched by soiled gloves. Limit this "touch contamination" to decrease your exposure to infections.