

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

PPE refers to a variety of barriers used alone or in combination to protect mucous membranes, airways, skin and clothing from contact with infectious agents (germs). Select PPE based on the nature of the patient/resident contact and/or the likely mode(s) of transmission.

GLOVES

Wear gloves when it is reasonably anticipated that contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, mucous membranes, nonintact skin or potentially contaminated intact skin (e.g., of a patient/resident incontinent of stool or urine) could occur.

Change gloves during patient/resident care if the hands will move from a contaminated body site (e.g., perineal area) to a clean body site (e.g., face). Perform hand hygiene between glove changes.

GOWN

Wear a gown to protect skin and prevent soiling or contamination of clothing during procedures and patient/resident care activities when contact with blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions is anticipated.

MASK

Wear a mask for protection from contact with infectious material from patients/residents (e.g., respiratory secretions and sprays of blood or body fluids).

- This material was prepared by Health Quality Innovators (HQI), a Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Views expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of CMS or HHS, and any reference to a specific product or entity herein does not constitute endorsement of that product or entity by CMS or HHS. 1250W/HQI/QIN-QIO-0355-11/11/22

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RESPIRATOR

Wear a respirator with N95 or higher filtration to prevent inhalation of small particles that may contain infectious agents transmitted via the airborne route (e.g., TB, SARS-CoV-2). This requires fit testing prior to use.

GOGGLES/FACE SHIELD

Wear goggles/face shield to protect the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth during procedures and activities that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions (e.g., suctioning or wound irrigation). A face shield may be used instead of a mask and goggles to provide more complete protection for the face.

PPE	PROPER USE
Gloves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use non-sterile for isolation Use sterile for sterile/aseptic technique
Gown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully cover torso from neck to knees, arms to end of wrist, wrap around back and tie
Mask/ Respirator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure ties or elastic band at middle of head and neck Fit flexible band to nose bridge Fit snug to face and below chin Fit test respirator
Goggles/ Face Shield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put on face and adjust to fit Clean reusable goggles after use

PPE designated as single-use should not be reused unless state and/or federal regulatory agencies approve re-use or extended use during PPE shortages.

Remove PPE after contact with a patient/resident and perform hand hygiene before leaving the patient's/resident's environment.



PPE Sequence | CDC



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