Personal Protective Equipment Extended Use and Reuse Guidance

Clean your hands before and after touching PPE

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Extended use = wearing PPE continuously without doffing between multiple patient interactions with respiratory/droplet isolation (doff for interactions with patients not on isolation)

Reuse = doffing PPE and storing in a clean dry place after being cleaned per the guidance below. Reuse is for ALL Clinical areas.

For both Extended Use and Reuse, refer to Additional Nursing Practice Update Guidance for PPE use with Hazardous Medications.

*Refer to “Guidance for Use of Personal Protective Equipment PPE for High Risk Aerosol Generating Procedures” on COVID website.

Extended Use Guidance

- Clean your hands each time prior to and after touching the mask/respirator.
- Wear a face shield with N95 respirator during AGP as indicated*
- Wear eye protection (face shield or goggles) with mask in Droplet Isolation
- When exiting patient room, doff appropriate PPE (gown and gloves) and then clean hands.
- Do not doff mask/N95 respirator when exiting a patient room.
- Perform hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE as required (gloves/gown) before entering new patient room for a separate patient interaction.
- Universal surgical masks: wear at all times in clinical buildings except for eating, drinking.
- OK to wear same universal surgical mask in all patient care unless N95 is required.
- Extended Use Surgical Masks and/or N95 Respirators can be reused after being doffed per the reuse guidance

Discard Guidance

- Discard the surgical mask or N95 respirator if:
  - Contaminated hands have touched inside
  - Wet, soiled, or damaged
  - Appropriate fit is not maintained*

OK Use
- Mask/N95 respirator re-use or extended use OK after AGP if face shield is worn.
- OK to keep N95 respirators for multiple shifts*

* (Note: please ensure fit-check is completed each time N-95 is re-donned)

Regular Surgical Masks & Disposable N95 Respirators

Reuse Guidance

- Clean your hands each time prior to and after touching the mask/N95 respirator.
- Wear a face shield with N95 respirator during AGP as indicated*
- Wear eye protection (face shield or goggles) with mask in Droplet Isolation
- Use your mask/N95 respirator for a full shift, or longer if it does not meet discard guidance.
- Do not share your mask/N95 respirator
- When doffing, avoid touching the front of mask/N95 respirator
  - remove using elastic bands, loops or ties
- Surgical Mask: When donning for reuse avoid touching the front of the mask; don using elastic bands
- N95 Respirator: When donning for reuse, clean hands immediately after touching the front of the N95 respirator for fit check.
- Avoid touching the inside of the mask/N95 respirator unless hands are clean.
- Between use: store in a clean, dry location that is labeled

Discard Guidance

- Discard the face shield, goggles, or PAPR shield if:
  - Inside cannot be cleaned
  - Damaged in any manner
  - Foam batting damaged/soiled
  - Face shield cracked/ripped
  - Chin cuff of PAPR shield not snug to skin

Extended Use Guidance

- Use one shield or goggles per health care worker.
- Label with name and date.
- When exiting patient room, doff gown and gloves and then clean hands.
- Do not doff the face shield, goggles, or PAPR when exiting a patient room.
- Perform hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE as required (gloves/gown) before entering new patient room for a separate patient interaction.
- Extended Use Face Shields, goggles, or PAPR shields can be reused after being doffed per the reuse guidance.

Face Shields, PAPR Shields & Goggles

Reuse Guidance

- Clean your hands each time prior to putting on and taking off
- Use one shield or one pair of goggles, per health care worker.
- Label with name and date; maintain control of your shield/goggles.
- Clean external surfaces of the shield/goggles with hospital approved disinfectant wipe, followed by alcohol wipe to remove any residue if needed.
  - PAPR Shield: Clean the external surface of the protective film that covers health care worker’s chin.
  - Store shield/goggle in a clean, dry location when not being used. PAPR shields can be left on PAPR and placed on a clean surface if the PAPR will be used by the same health care worker.
- Relabel as needed if label was compromised during cleaning.

Discard Guidance

- Discard PAPR shields after one shift.
- Continue to use face shields for multiple shifts until they meet the discard criteria.