

GUIDE FOR COVID-19 UNITS

This is a guide to use for facilities that have dedicated COVID units to provide direction on how to utilize and conserve Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- PPE, according to Special Droplet Precautions, for the usual care of the COVID Positive Residents Include:
 - Fit tested N95 Respirators (especially for aerosolizing procedures)
 - Surgical mask if N95 respirator not available
 - Eye protection – may be a face shield, goggles or mask with attached shield
 - Gown or Coveralls
 - Gloves
- Gloves **must** be changed between caring for every resident
- Hand hygiene **must** be performed when changing gloves
- The other PPE items **do not** have to be changed between resident encounters (moving from resident to resident on the COVID unit).
 - This includes N95 Respirators or surgical masks, eye protection and gown or coveralls
 - The **exceptions** are the following:
 - PPE should be doffed (removed) before going on break or lunch and before leaving the facility.
 - If a resident on the COVID positive unit has another Multi Drug Resistant Organism (MDRO) such as C. diff, PPE must be removed, and new PPE donned after care for that resident.
- If PPE (gown/coveralls, mask or eye protection) becomes visibly soiled, torn or wet, you will need to exit the room and unit (facility/unit designated location for safely removing soiled PPE), doff and discard soiled item(s) and don new PPE.

Doffing: Storing N95/Surgical masks for Extended/Reuse	Donning: Extended/Reused Masks
1. Remove all PPE except for mask and face shield/goggles	1. Remove N95 respirator or surgical mask from storage bag (do NOT touch inside of mask).
2. Perform hand hygiene	3. Does not hold form? Yes = Discard ; No = Continue with process
3. Exit resident room	2. Put on N95 Respirator or surgical mask
4. Apply clean pair of gloves	3. If wearing a N95 respirator and the mask does not fit tightly, discard and Don a new mask
5. Remove face shield from back of head or goggles from sides	3. Perform hand hygiene
6. Clean face shield/goggles with disinfectant wipe from inside to outside	4. Continue donning the rest of your PPE.
7. Place clean face shield/goggles in designated location	
8. Remove gloves	
9. Perform hand hygiene	
10. Remove N95 Respirator from back of head or surgical mask from earpieces	
11. Check condition of Mask: a. Does not hold form or wet? Yes = Discard ; No = Continue to next step	
12. Cleanliness Check: a. Heavily Soiled? Yes = Discard ; No = Reuse and Continue to next step	
13. Place in paper bag, name and date should be written on the bag.	
14. Discard paper bag daily, with mask change or when soiled, torn or wet.	