

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

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Effective Date: December 2001
Cross Referenced: CDC/OSHA
Reviewed Date:
Revised Date: 3/13

Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 1 of 7

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SCOPE

All employees of HRMC hospital, Center for Addiction and Counseling, contract workers, volunteers and students.

PURPOSE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against infectious materials. PPE prevents contact with an infectious agent or body fluid that may contain an infectious agent, by creating a barrier between the potential infectious material and the healthcare worker.

There are four key points to remember about PPE use. First, don it before you have any contact with the patient, generally before entering the room. Once you have PPE on, use it carefully to prevent spreading contamination. When you have completed your tasks, remove the PPE carefully and discard it in the receptacles provided. Then immediately perform hand hygiene before going on to the next patient

DEFINITIONS

I. Blood borne Pathogens: means pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

II. Personal Protective Equipment: (PPE): use involves specialized clothing or equipment worn by facility staff for protection against infectious materials. The selection of PPE is based on the nature of the patient interaction and potential for exposure to blood, body fluids or infectious agents.

III. Potentially Infectious Materials means (1) The following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids; (2) Any unfixated tissue or organ.

IV. (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and (3) HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

V. OSHA

A. PPE Components:

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Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 2 of 7

=====

- B. Gloves: Gloves help protect you when directly handling potentially infectious materials or contaminated surfaces.
- C. Gowns: Gowns help protect you from the contamination of clothing with potentially infectious material.
- D. Shoe and Head Covers: Shoe and head covers provide a barrier against possible exposure within a contaminated environment.
- E. Masks and Respirators: Surgical masks help protect your nose and mouth from splattered of body fluids, respirators filter the air before you inhale it.
- F. Other Face and Eye Protection: Goggles help protect only your eyes from splatters. A face shield provides splatter protection to facial skin, eyes, nose, and mouth.

VI.
VII.

- A.
- B.

POLICY

- I. Gloves
 - A. Gloves help protect you when directly handling potentially infectious materials or contaminated surfaces.
 - B. ALWAYS perform hand hygiene BEFORE applying clean or sterile gloves.
 - C. Wear gloves when directly handling potentially infectious materials or in contact with contaminated surfaces.
 - D. Vinyl, latex or nitrile gloves may be worn.
 - E. Change gloves when visibly soiled, torn or punctured.
 - F. Change between tasks and procedures on the same patient after contact with potentially infectious material.
 - G. Wash hands upon removing gloves. Gloves do not replace the need for excellent hand washing!
 - H. Gloves should be worn as part of Standard Precautions or Contact Precautions.
 - I. Gloves should not be worn in the hallway
 - J. Work from clean to dirty. This is a basic principle of infection control. In this instance it refers to touching clean body sites or surfaces before you touch dirty or heavily contaminated areas.

- II. Gowns
 - A. Gowns help protect you from the contamination of clothing with potentially infectious material.
 - B. Wear a gown when contamination of clothing with potentially infectious material is possible.

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Policy No: IC008
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Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 3 of 7

=====

- C. Your gown should fully cover the torso, fit close to the body and cover the arms to the wrists.
 - D. Choose a gown appropriate to the situation:
 - E. Sterile vs clean.
 - F. Gowns should be worn as part of Standard Precautions or Contact Precautions and full barrier precautions.
- III. Shoe and Head Covers
- A. Shoe and head covers provide a barrier against possible exposure within a contaminated environment.
 - B. Shoe covers
 - C. Wear shoe covers to provide a barrier against possible exposure organisms or contact with a contaminated environment.
 - D. Use shoe covers for patients with hemorrhagic disease.
 - E. Shoe covers should be worn as part of Full Barrier Precautions.
 - F. Head covers (bonnets)
 - G. Wear head covers to protect the hair and scalp from possible contamination when sprays or airborne exposure is anticipated.
 - H. Head covers can be worn as part of Full Barrier Precautions. ALL hair should be covered.
- IV. Masks and Respirators
- A. Surgical masks help protect your nose and mouth from splattered body fluids; respirators filter the air before you inhale it.
 - B. Surgical masks/procedure masks
 - C. Surgical masks help protect your nose and mouth from splattered body fluids (such as blood, respiratory secretions, vomit, urine or feces).
 - D. Surgical masks should be worn as part of Standard Precautions or Droplet Precautions.
 - E. Surgical masks are single patient use: and should be discarded after each patient and procedure use.
 - F. Respirators filter the air you breathe to help protect you from microorganisms including bacteria and many viruses.
 - 1. Types of respirators include:
 - a) Disposable Respirators (includes N95)
 - b) Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)
 - c) Prior to your using a respirator, your employer is required to have you medically evaluated to determine that it is safe for you to wear a respirator, to fit test you for the appropriate respirator size and type, and to train you on how and when to use a respirator. YOU are responsible for fit checking your respirator before use to make sure it has a proper seal.

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Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 4 of 7

=====

- V. Other Face and Eye Protection
- A. Goggles help protect only your eyes from splatters. A face shield provides splatter protection to facial skin, eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - B. Face shields
 - C. Face shields protect the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth from splashes of body fluids (during procedures and patient care activities that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions and/or excretions).
 - D. Wear a face shield when facial skin protection is needed in addition to eye, nose and mouth protection.
 - E. A face shield may be worn with an N95 respirator in place of goggles to provide eye and face protection.
 - F. The face shield should cover the forehead, extend below the chin and wrap around the side of the face.
 - G. Face shields should be worn as part of Standard Precautions.
- VI. Goggles
- A. Goggles are a barrier style of protection for the eyes.
 - B. Goggles should fit snugly over and around the eyes or prescriptive lenses.
 - C. Note: prescriptive lenses do not provide adequate eye protection.
 - D. Goggles should be worn as part of Standard Precautions.
- VII. Choosing the correct PPE
- A. Please refer to Transmission Based Precautions Policy #IC003, and Standard Precautions Policy #IC003a for correct PPE recommendations.
 - B. Applying PPE
 - C. Gown – Mask - Goggles and lastly Gloves.

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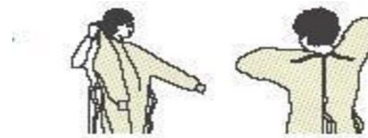
Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 5 of 7

DONNING AND REMOVING PPE

DONNING PPE

GOWN

- Fully cover torso from neck to knees, arms to end of wrist, and wrap around the back
- Fasten in back at neck and waist



MASK OR RESPIRATOR

- 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-check respirator



GOGGLES/FACE SHIELD

- Put on face and adjust to fit



GLOVES

- Use non-sterile for isolation
- Select according to hand size
- Extend to cover wrist of isolation gown



SAFE WORK PRACTICES

- Keep hands away from face
- Work from clean to dirty
- Limit surfaces touched
- Change when torn or heavily contaminated
- Perform hand hygiene

2007 Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings <http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/isolation/Isolation2007.pdf>

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Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 6 of 7

Removing PPE


The sequence for removing PPE is intended to limit opportunities for self contamination.


Gloves – Goggles – Gown – and lastly mask.

SEQUENCE FOR REMOVING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Except for respirator, remove PPE at doorway or in anteroom. Remove respirator after leaving patient room and closing door.

- 1. GLOVES**
 - Outside of gloves is contaminated!
 - Grasp outside of glove with opposite gloved hand; peel off
 - Hold removed glove in gloved hand
 - Slide fingers of ungloved hand under remaining glove at wrist
 - Peel glove off over first glovet
 - Discard gloves in waste container
- 2. GOGGLES OR FACE SHIELD**
 - Outside of goggles or face shield is contaminated!
 - To remove, handle by head band or ear pieces
 - Place in designated receptacle for reprocessing or in waste container
- 3. GOWN**
 - Gown front and sleeves are contaminated!
 - Unfasten ties
 - Pull away from neck and shoulders, touching inside of gown only
 - Turn gown inside out
 - Fold or roll into a bundle and discard
- 4. MASK OR RESPIRATOR**
 - Front of mask/respirator is contaminated — DO NOT TOUCH!
 - Grasp bottom, then top ties or elastics and remove
 - Discard in waste container



 **CDC**

PERFORM HAND HYGIENE IMMEDIATELY AFTER REMOVING ALL PPE

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Policy No: IC008
Origin: Infection Control
Authority: Administrative Director
Page: 7 of 7

=====

Remove PPE **before** exiting patient room and perform hand hygiene immediately **EXCEPT** when caring for a patient on Airborne Precautions. **ALWAYS** remove Fit tested N95 outside of patients' room after you close the door to the negative pressurized room.

Storing PPE:

1. Each nursing department has PPE available in their clean storage room.
2. Any additional items are located in Central Supply/ Storage.
3. Isolation Carts, wall storage boxes or door caddies need to be stocked and available for use in close proximity to patients on Isolation Precautions.
4. Employees need to be aware of their departments PPE storage locations.
5. Personal protective clothing identified by the manufacturer as single use must not be kept for re-use.
6. PPE should not be worn in the hallway.

REFERENCES

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Healthcare Settings
CDC. Guidance for the selection and use of PPE in healthcare settings.
- Guidelines for Isolation Precautions in Hospitals CDC. Preventing transmission of infectious agents in healthcare settings. <http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/prevent/ppe.html>