

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- FFP3 respirators (fit tested masks) and long sleeve gowns are only required for confirmed cases or suspected cases if staff are undertaking aerosol generating procedures [AGP].
- Staff swabbing patients or caring for patients with suspected Covid-19 in hospital or community settings should wear fluid resistant surgical masks (FRSM) and not FFP masks.

Below is the table for selecting the correct PPE in hospital and community settings:

PPE requirement	Close patient contact of possible case (within one metre, no AGP)	AGP – possible & confirmed cases	Contact with confirmed cases
Hand hygiene	√	√	√
Gloves	√	√	√
Plastic apron	√	X	X
Long sleeved disposable gown	X	√	√
Fluid resistant surgical facemask (b)	√	X	X
FFP3 respirator	X	√	√
Eye protection	Risk assessment (c)	√	√

Use safe work practices to protect yourself and limit the spread of infection

- Keep hands away from face and PPE being worn.
- Change gloves when heavily contaminated or torn.
- Limit surfaces touched in the patient environment.
- Perform Hand hygiene immediately after removing PPE
- Following use all PPE must be placed in a clinical waste bag, securely tied, and removed from the area
- Where possible the process of donning and doffing PPE should be supervised by a buddy [colleague] that observes from over 2 metres.

1. Guidance for Putting and Removal of PPE required for CONFIRMED cases of Covid-19

[Long sleeved gowns, FFP3 mask, eye protection, gloves]

1.1 Putting on [donning] PPE

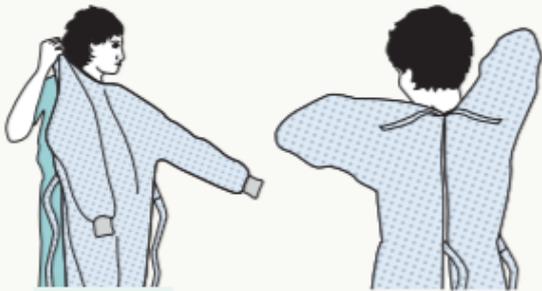
This should be undertaken in a clean area outside the patient's room/isolation area [e.g. clinic room].

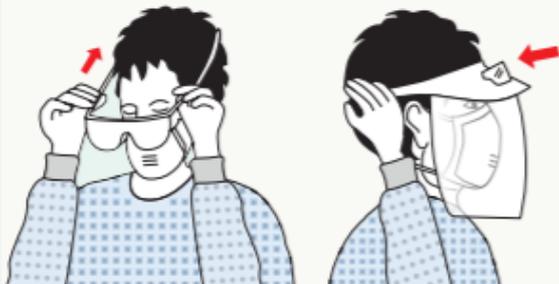
This is undertaken outside the patient's room.

Pre-donning instructions

- ensure healthcare worker hydrated
- tie hair back
- remove jewellery
- check PPE in the correct size is available

Perform hand hygiene before putting on PPE

- 1 Put on the long-sleeved fluid repellent disposable gown**

- 2 Respirator**
Perform a fit check.

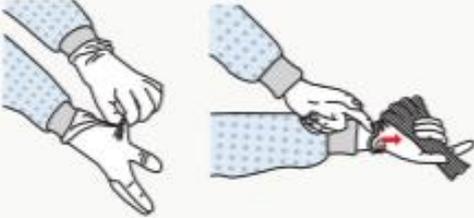
- 3 Eye protection**

- 4 Gloves**


1.2 Removing [doffing] PPE:

This should be undertaken outside the patient's bedroom in an allocated anteroom equipped with a foot pedal operated clinical waste bin and alcohol hand gel. Anterooms have the potential to become contaminated and should be regularly decontaminated [cleaning with neutral detergent followed by a chlorine-based disinfectant [1,000ppm]. If a hand wash basin is not available in the anteroom, alcohol hand gel should be used after removal of PPE, promptly followed by thorough hand hygiene with soap and water at the nearest hand wash basin.

PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the potential for cross contamination.

The order of removal of PPE is as follows:

- 1 Gloves –**
the outsides of the gloves are contaminated

Clean hands with alcohol gel
- 2 Gown –**
the front of the gown and sleeves will be contaminated

- 3 Eye protection -**
the outside will be contaminated

- 4 Respirator**
Clean hands with alcohol hand rub. Do not touch the front of the respirator as it will be contaminated

- 5 Wash hands with soap and water**


2. Guidance for Putting and Removal of PPE required for SUSPECTED cases of Covid-19

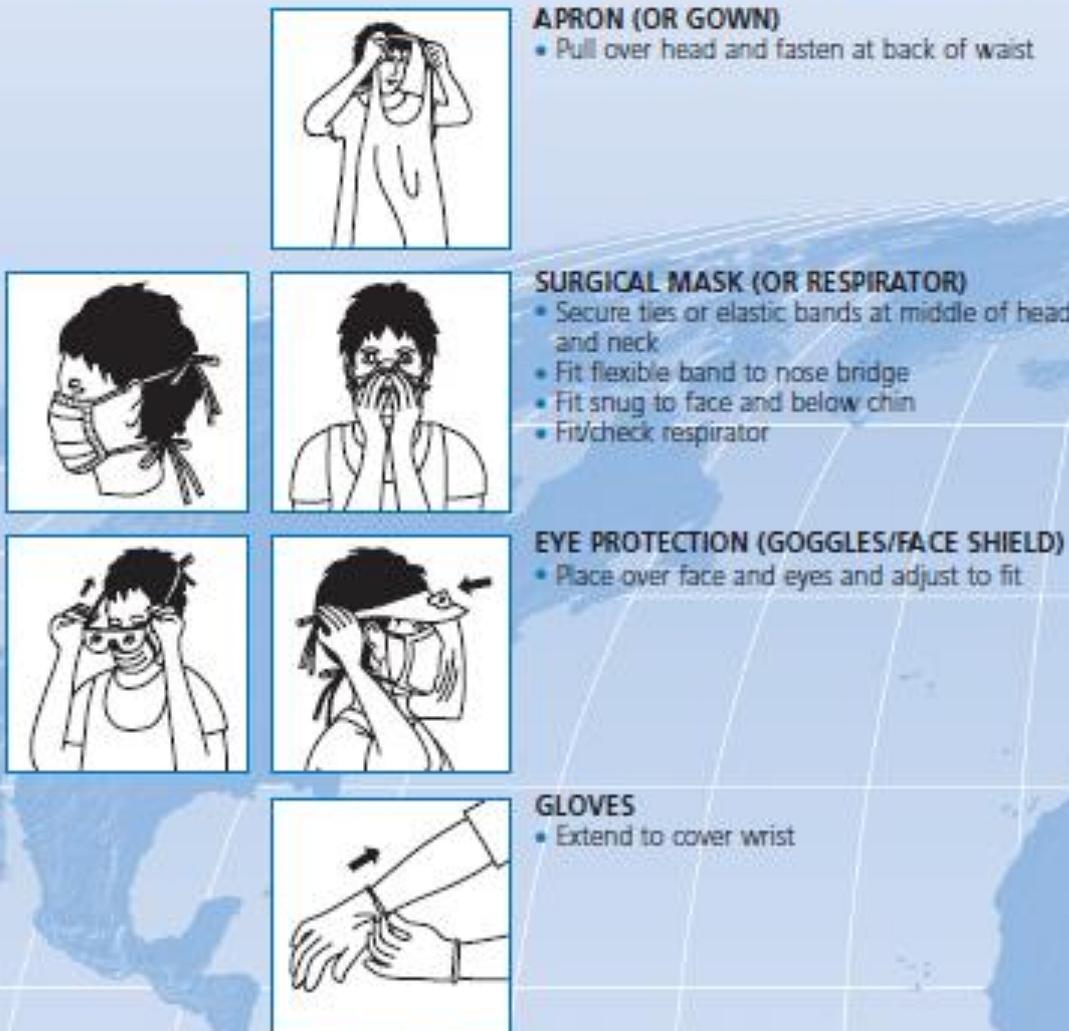
[Aprons, surgical face mask, gloves]

This should be undertaken in a clean area outside the patient's room/isolation area [e.g. clinic room].

PUTTING ON personal protective equipment (PPE)

The type of PPE used will vary based on the type of exposure anticipated, and not all items of PPE will be required.

The order for putting on PPE is APRON, SURGICAL MASK, EYE PROTECTION and GLOVES.



- APRON (OR GOWN)**
 - Pull over head and fasten at back of waist
- SURGICAL MASK (OR RESPIRATOR)**
 - Secure ties or elastic bands at middle of head and neck
 - Fit flexible band to nose bridge
 - Fit snug to face and below chin
 - Fit/check respirator
- EYE PROTECTION (GOGGLES/FACE SHIELD)**
 - Place over face and eyes and adjust to fit
- GLOVES**
 - Extend to cover wrist

2.2 Removing [doffing] PPE

This should be undertaken outside the patient's bedroom in an allocated anteroom equipped with a foot pedal operated clinical waste bin and alcohol hand gel. Anterooms have the potential to become contaminated and should be regularly decontaminated [cleaning with neutral detergent followed by a chlorine-based disinfectant [1,000ppm]. If a hand wash basin is not available in the anteroom, alcohol hand gel should be used after removal of PPE, promptly followed by thorough hand hygiene with soap and water at the nearest hand wash basin.

REMOVING personal protective equipment (PPE)

PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the potential for cross-contamination.

The order for removing PPE is GLOVES, APRON, EYE PROTECTION and SURGICAL MASK.



GLOVES

- Grasp the outside of the glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off
- Hold the removed glove in the gloved hand
- Slide the fingers of the ungloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist
- Peel the second glove off over the first glove
- Discard in a lined waste bin



APRON (OR GOWN)

- Unfasten or break ties
- Pull apron away from neck and shoulders lifting over head, touching inside only
- Fold or roll into a bundle
- Discard in a lined waste bin



EYE PROTECTION (GOGGLES/FACE SHIELD)

- Handle only by the headband or the sides
- Discard in a lined waste bin



SURGICAL MASK (OR RESPIRATOR)

- Unfasten the ties – first the bottom, then the top
- Pull away from the face without touching front of mask/respirator
- Discard in a lined waste bin