PPE Procedures for Students in Clinical Placements

General Guidelines for PPE

- The correct order of donning and doffing PPE is key for protecting against contamination
- Keep PPE in place and wear correctly at all times during clinical placements
- Try to consolidate tasks and limit entering and exiting rooms as much as possible
- Remove slowly and deliberately in a sequence that prevents self-contamination

How to Don PPE Step-by-step

1. Identify and gather all proper PPE (gown, facemask, gloves, face shield or goggles)

2. Perform hand hygiene

3. Put on isolation gown

- Choose an appropriate type and size
- Secure at the neck and waist using the ties or buttons
- Do not tie the gown in the front



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4. N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirator (NIOSH-approved)

- Fit over the nose, mouth, and chin with both hands, do not bend or pinch nose piece
- Fit the flexible nose piece over the bridge of the nose
- Secure on the head with elastic by placing the top strap on the crown of the head and bottom strap on the base of the neck
- Adjust to fit
- ▶ Perform a fit and seal check by having the respirator collapse on inhale, and check for leakage on exhale

5. Eye & Face Protection Face Shield or Goggles

- Position face shield and secure on the brow using the headband
- Position goggles over eyes and secure to head using ear pieces or headband
- Adjust to fit comfortably



Facemask



- Secure top tie to crown of the head and the bottom tie at base of neck or hook loops around the ears
- Make sure the mask is constantly covering the nose, mouth, and chin
- Do not touch the inside or front of the mask

6. Gloves



- Perform hand hygiene before putting gloves on
- Select the correct type and size
- Gloves should cover the cuff (wrist) of the gown
- ▶ Keep gloved hands away from the face

How to Doff PPE Gear Step-by-step

- ▶ Places to doff are at the doorway, before leaving patient room or in anteroom
- Remove respirator outside room, after the door has been closed

1. Remove Gloves

- There are several techniques (glove-in-glove or bird beak)
- ▶ Grasp outside edge near the wrist and peel away from hand, turning glove inside-out, hold in opposite gloved hand
- Slide ungloved finger under the wrist of the remaining glove and peel off from the inside, creating a bag for both gloves
- Discard

2. Remove Face Shield or Goggles

- Grasp the straps or head pieces with ungloved hands
- Lift away from face
- Do not touch the front of the goggles or face shield
- Place in designated receptacle for reprocessing or disposal

3. Remove Gown

- Unfasten all ties or buttons
- Reach up to the shoulders and carefully pull gown down and away from the body
- > Turn contaminated outside toward the inside
- Dispose in trash receptacle
- Healthcare personnel may now exit the room

4. Perform Hand Hygiene

5. Remove Particulate Respirator

- Lift the bottom elastic strap over the head first
- Lift off top elastic strap and bring carefully over the head and pull away from face without touching the front and discard



Remove Face Mask

- Untie the bottom, then the top
- ▶ Remove from face and discard

6. Perform Hand Hygiene

After removal of respirator or face mask, and before putting on again if practicing reuse

Reusable Mask Care

- During meal breaks carefully fold the face mask, outer surface held inward and against itself to eliminate contact with outer surfaces
- Store in between usage in a clean breathable container or bag
- When donning PPE, remove the mask and store on a clean surface or paper bag for later reuse



