



Emergency Medical Services Agency

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PLEASE POST

PPE Basic Information

- **Gloves** – protect hands
- **Gowns** – protect skin and/or clothing
- **Masks and respirators** – protect mouth/nose
- **Respirators** – protect respiratory tract from airborne infectious agents
- **Goggles** – protect eyes
- **Face shields** – protect face, mouth, nose, and eyes
- **Contact Precautions** – Used to prevent transmission through direct physical contact.
- **Droplet Precautions** – Used when fluids could be coughed, sneezed, sprayed, or splashed.
- **Aerosolized Precautions** – Used during aerosol generating procedures (Neb, CPAP, ETI, Suctioning)

Gloves (Contact precaution) Use medical gloves when your hands may touch someone else's body fluids (such as blood, respiratory secretions, vomit, urine or feces), certain hazardous drugs or some potentially contaminated items.

Gowns (Contact and droplet precaution) Gowns are used to protect the wearer from the spread of infection or illness if the wearer comes in contact with potentially infectious liquid and solid material. They may also be used to protect the wearer from the transfer of microorganisms and body fluids in low or minimal risk patient isolation situations. A gown is essentially a disposable layer of clothing. Gowns should be prioritized for the following activities:

- During care activities where splashes and sprays are anticipated, which typically includes aerosol generating procedures
- During high-contact patient care activities that provide opportunities for transfer of pathogens to the hands and clothing of healthcare providers.

Face Masks to include surgical masks, cloth masks, Et al. A face mask is a loose-fitting, disposable, or washable device that creates a physical barrier between the mouth and nose of the wearer and potential contaminants in the immediate environment. A face mask, by design, does not filter or block very small particles in the air that may be transmitted by coughs, sneezes, or certain medical procedures. When available a surgical mask should be chosen by a health care provider due to their ability to block large-particle droplets, from reaching your mouth and nose. Surgical masks may also help reduce exposure of your saliva and respiratory secretions to others

N95 Respirators (Aerosolized precaution) An N95 respirator is a respiratory protective device designed to achieve a very close facial fit and very efficient filtration of airborne particles. The 'N95' designation means that when subjected to careful testing, the respirator blocks at least 95 percent of very small (0.3 micron) test particles. If properly fitted, the filtration capabilities of N95 respirators exceed those of face masks. N95 vs. P100 The letter in the rating is for oil resistance. The number in a rating tells you the minimum amount of airborne challenge particles the mask protects against: an N95 mask keeps out at least 95% of particles but isn't oil resistant, and a P100 mask is oil proof while protecting the wearer from at least 99.8% of 0.3 micron particles. Please consider, a higher filtration level will be more difficult to breathe through.

Glasses, Goggles, and Face Shields (Droplet precaution) Safety glasses allow air in and around the eye area while safety goggles fit tight against the face, offering protection against dust and splashes. Safety glasses should have a closed top and sides in order to adequately protect in healthcare setting. Face shields are a combination face mask and eye shield which can provide further protection and can also be worn over eyeglasses or safety glasses. Regular eyeglasses alone are not considered sufficient protection.