According to the CDC, high risk jobs are those with potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19. Workers in this category include dental professionals performing aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., high-speed hand-pieces, ultrasonic scalers or polishing teeth). It is important to correctly wear PPE to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Follow the donning and doffing steps below. Additional information on PPE use during clinical care can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html.

**STANDARD AND CONTACT PRECAUTIONS**
- Eye protection, goggles
- Fluid resistant face mask
- Long sleeved, fluid resistant disposable/reusable cloth gowns
- Disposable gloves

**AIRBORNE AND DROPLET PRECAUTIONS**
- Change to eye protection, goggles or face shield
- N95 or higher-level respirator
- Long sleeved, fluid resistant disposable/reusable cloth gowns
- Disposable gloves

**IMPORTANT TIPS TO REMEMBER**
- PPE must be worn correctly before entering the patient area and remain in place for the duration of care
- Always extend the glove cuff over the gown cuff to fully cover the wrist and limit exposure
- If a respirator is not available, use a combination of a surgical mask and a full-face shield
- Infection control recommendations include the use of hair or shoes covers whenever available
- PPE should not be adjusted (e.g., retying gowns, adjusting mask, etc.) during patient care
- Remove and discard all disposable PPE into a sealed trash receptacle (e.g., disposable respirators/masks, eye protection, gown, gloves, etc.)
- Clean and disinfect reusable eye protection according to manufacturer’s instructions prior to re-use
- Reusable cloth gowns should be laundered after each use

**MEDICAL GLOVES MUST**
- Conform to standard AQL 2.5 or less (Lower AQL minimizes potential risk of contamination due to pinhole defects)
- Conform to ASTM D3578, D6319, D6977, D5250 or EN 455 (Barrier against viral penetration)
- When selecting PPE also look for conformance with viral penetration standard ASTM F1671 and EN ISO 374-5 VIRUS (Barrier against viral penetration)

References:


Please note: given the novelty of this coronavirus, recommendations from the source references are interim and advisory in nature and are based on current knowledge of the situation. Always ensure compliance with your local public health authorities regulations surrounding conservation, usage, and selection guidance of PPE to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Ansell, ® and ™ are trademarks owned by Ansell Limited or one of its affiliates. © 2020 All Rights Reserved.