

DONNING AND DOFFING GUIDE FOR INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT SURGERY HEALTHCARE WORKERS

According to the CDC, high risk jobs are those with potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19.¹ CDC recommends using a combination of Standard, Contact and Airborne precautions to protect healthcare workers from exposure to COVID-19. Workers in this category include all surgical services staff, physicians and assistive personnel in surgical care settings. PPE worn is based on risk of exposure. N95 respirators or respirators that offer a higher level of protection should be used present or performing aerosol-generating procedures. It is important to correctly wear PPE to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Additional information on PPE use when present or performing aerosol-generating procedures can be found at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html

For optimal protection and to avoid cross-contamination during the donning and doffing process, follow these steps:1,23

DONNING

- 1. Perform hand hygiene
- N95/Respirator or Mask:
 Mask: Tie at top of head and base of neck or loop over ears to secure.
 Respirator: Place straps at top of head and base of neck to secure, eliminating any gaps between respirator and face. Perform seal check
- Eye Protection: Place goggles or faceshield over mask straps and ensure elastic strap fits snugly on head.
- 4. Perform surgical hand scrub/rub.
- Protective Clothing: Don gown. Secure all ties/fasteners. If back closure, a second operator should assist.
- Gloves: Don gloves as the final step, be sure to extend the gloves over the gown cuff or clothing to cover the wrist and limit exposure.

DOFFING

- Remove gown. Until or unsnap all buttons
 First until or unsnap all buttons. Reach up to shoulders
 and association and association and association and association.
 - First untie or unsnap all buttons. Reach up to shoulders and carefully pull gown down and away from body. Roll gown down and discard in sealed trash receptacle.
- Remove gloves being careful to prevent additional contamination of hands. Gloves can be removed using more than one technique with the primary goal of not touching the outside contaminated portion. Discard in sealed trash receptacle.
- 3. Exit room and perform hand hygiene.
- 4. Remove face shield or goggles by grabbing the strap, pulling upwards and away from head. Do not touch front of face shield or goggles. Discard in a sealed trash receptacle or prepare for cleaning/reprocessing.
- Remove and discard respirator or mask without touching the front.
 - **Respirator:** To remove the bottom strap, bring over the head, repeat with top strap, then pull the respirator away from face.
 - Mask: Carefully untie or unhook straps and pull away from face. Discard respirator or mask in a sealed trash receptacle.
- **6. Perform hand hygiene** after removing respirator or mask.

IMPORTANT TIPS TO REMEMBER^{1,2,3}

- Scrubs should be worn by all personnel, scrub top tucked, no jewelry.
- Identify and gather the proper PPE for donning.
- PPE must be donned correctly before entering the patient area.
- PPE must remain in place and be worn correctly for the duration of surgery.
- · PPE should not be adjusted (e.g.,; retying
- gown, adjusting respirator/facemask) during patient care.
- PPE must be removed slowly and deliberately in a sequence that prevents self-contamination.
- Ensure safe waste management. Treat waste contaminated with blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions as medical waste, in accordance with local regulations.

HAND HYGIENE4

In addition to surgical hand scrub/ rub, at appropriate times during the donning and doffing process proper hand hygiene should also be performed.

Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or disinfect hands with an alcohol rub (\geq 60%) in compliance with your organization's recommended procedure.

References

- 1. CDC Infection Control Guidance for Healthcare Professionals About COVID-19. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control.html. Accessed July 27, 2020
 2. Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Finfection-control%2Fcontrol-recommendations.html. Accessed July 27, 2020.
- 3. The Joint Commission, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). https://www.jointcommission.org/en/covid-19/. Accessed July 27, 2020. 4. CDC Hand Hygiene Recommendations. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html. Accessed July 27, 2020.
- For more information on infection prevention and control of COVID-19, please visit: www.Ansell.com/us/en/the-new-coronavirus

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.