A VISUAL GUIDE TO SAFE PPE USE FOR INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT SURGERY PROVIDERS

According to the CDC, high risk jobs are those with potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19. 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 when performing or when present for aerosol-generating procedures.

Additional information on PPE use during clinical care can be found at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html.

STANDARD AND CONTACT PRECAUTIONS1,2,3

- Disposable head cover
- Eye protection, goggles
- Fluid resistant face mask
- Disposable surgical or exam gloves depending on role
- Disposable shoe covers

AIRBORNE AND DROPLET PRECAUTIONS1,2,3

- Disposable head cover
- Eye protection, goggles or face shield
- N95 or higher-level respirator
- Long sleeved, fluid resistant disposable/reusable cloth gowns
- Disposable surgical or exam gloves depending on role
- Disposable shoe covers

IMPORTANT TIPS TO REMEMBER:1,2,3

- Consider wearing only scrub attire into the facility as per hospital policy.
- 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.
- 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 and surgical gloves to standard AQL 1.5 or less (Minimize potential risks of contamination due to pinhole defects)
- Conform to ASTM F1671 and EN ISO 374-5 VIRUS (Barrier against viral penetration)
- Conform to EN 455 (Standard for medical exam gloves)

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.

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