

Introduction


This document provides guidance for donning and doffing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare providers (HCP) performing [Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures](#) (AGMPs) in patients with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 or persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19. In all cases no additions to usual standard airborne precaution practices (includes AGMPs) are required to be protective. This guideline offers HCPs guidance on allowable additional PPE utilisation.


COVID-19 is transmitted by droplet and contact transmission; however, when aerosol generating medical procedures (AGMPs) are performed, airborne precautions are needed. Strategies to reduce aerosol generation should be applied, and the number of HCPs present during an AGMP should be limited to those essential for patient care and support.


Droplet & Contact Precautions, in addition to the airborne precautions for AGMPs, indicate that an N95 respirator, eye protection, gown and gloves are required for all HCPs present in a room where the AGMP is being performed on a patient confirmed to have COVID-19 or a patient with signs and symptoms and/or exposure criteria consistent with COVID-19.

AGMPs should be performed in a negative pressure isolation room whenever feasible. If a negative pressure isolation room is not available, please close the door for one hour after the AGMP procedure is completed. Anyone entering the room within that hour will be required to don the N95 respirator in addition to the gown, gloves and eye protection. Ensure both Droplet & Contact and Airborne Precaution signage is clearly visible on the door as an alert to all who require entering the room.

Policy Statement(s)

Items marked with  are standard items for droplet & contact plus airborne precaution for AGMP procedures at C&W and are **REQUIRED**.

Items marked with  are **Allowable**. These items have an increased risk of contamination when doffing. Healthcare workers using these items must consider the risk of contamination by adopting these additional measures.

Items marked with  are allowable but **Not Recommended**. These items carry a higher risk of contamination during the doffing process. Healthcare workers using these items must consider the risk of contamination by adopting these additional measures.

Hand hygiene is performed at minimum according to steps shown. Hand hygiene is encouraged at additional points and is performed if any doubt or concern of contamination has occurred.

All HCPs and staff use only workplace provided PPE.

All PPE items are changed when soiled, damaged or moist/wet as per usual Infection Prevention & Control standards.

Practice Level/Competencies

Donning and Doffing of PPE is a basic skill for all healthcare workers.

Competence requires following proper sequence and technique for each PPE item to ensure protection of self and of those in your environment. Donning and doffing technique is practiced and reviewed to ensure competence.

Order of Donning Items: All Outside Room

Booties



Not recommended. It is not believed that covering shoes decreases the risk of disease transmission in AGMPs. Using booties leads to increased risk of contamination when doffing.

Hand Hygiene



Required. Clean all surfaces of hands and wrists for at least 20 seconds.

Gown



Required. Ensure gown is securely fastened at neck and waist.

Surgical Bouffant Cap



Allowable. Ensure hair and ears are covered completely.

Order of Donning Items: All Outside Room (Cont'd)

N95 Mask



Required. Gently mold metal piece to bridge of nose and perform seal check.

Surgical Mask w/built-in Visor



Not recommended. A surgical/procedure mask with built-in visor may be donned after the N95 mask in place of goggles or face shield. Be aware use of this item may affect the N95 mask seal, affect breathing and lead to fogging of visor. There is increased risk of contamination when doffing with additional mask ties to undo.

Head Cover w/ Neck Protection



Not recommended and leads to increased risk of contamination when doffing.

Eye Protection: Goggles or Faceshield



Required. Place goggles or face shield over face and eyes and adjust to fit.

Order of Donning Items: All Outside Room (Cont'd)

Gloves: 1 pair



Required. Extend gloves to cover wrist of gown. Extended cuff gloves may be required to cover wrist of gown properly.

Gloves: 2nd pair



Allowable. Extend gloves to cover wrist of gown. This pair may be removed immediately after intubation procedure within the room.

Order of Doffing Items: Inside the Room

Booties



Booties are not recommended as doffing booties has a high risk of contamination. If used, careful attention to doffing technique is essential. Grasp the outside of the boot or shoe cover and pull down toward your ankle. Then, lift the boot or shoe cover over your heel, pull it off your foot and discard.

Gloves: 1 pair



Grasp the outside edge near your wrist and peel it away, rolling the glove inside out. Then, reach under the glove on your other hand, peel it away and discard.

For Break-Away (no ties, disposable) gowns only: Gown may be rolled down shoulders first then removed at same time as gloves.

Gown



Untie at waist and neck carefully. Gently pull gown from neck and shoulders. Turn gown inside out, roll into bundle and dispose.

Hand Hygiene



Clean all surfaces of hands and wrists for at least 20 seconds.

Exit Room

Order of Doffing Items: Outside the Room

Eye Protection: Goggles or Faceshield



Bend forward to remove goggle or face shield. Do not touch front of goggles or face shield. Grasp the strap toward the back and pull it over your head and discard.

Surgical Mask w/built-in Visor



If used in place of goggles or face shield, without touching the front, bend forward at waist to allow mask to fall away from face and body. Carefully undo ties and discard into garbage bin.

Head Cover w/Neck Protection



If used, careful attention to doffing technique is critical to avoid contamination. Tilt your head slightly forward, grasp at crown of head and use one hand to pull forward, away from the body and off head and dispose.

Hand Hygiene



If Head Cover w/Neck Protection used, additional Hand Hygiene is needed prior to mask removal.
Clean all surfaces of hands and wrists for at least 20 seconds.

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Order of Doffing Items: Outside the Room (Cont'd)

N95 Mask



Grasp bottom strap from behind your head. Pull forward off your head bending at waist to allow mask to fall away from your face.

Grasp top strap from behind your head. Pull forward off your head bending at waist to allow mask to fall away from your face and discard.

Hand Hygiene



Clean all surfaces of hands and wrists for at least 20 seconds.

Surgical Bouffant Cap



If used careful attention to doffing technique is critical to avoid contamination. Tilt your head slightly, grasp at crown of head and use one hand to pull forward, away from the body and off head and dispose.

Hand Hygiene



Clean all surfaces of hands and wrists for at least 20 seconds.

Definitions

Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMPs) generate small droplet nuclei in high concentrations that present a risk for airborne transmission of pathogens not otherwise able to spread by the airborne route. Examples include nebulized therapy, CPR, endotracheal intubation & extubation, high frequency oscillatory ventilation, bronchoscopy and bronchoalveolar lavage, laryngoscopy, positive pressure ventilation (BiPAP & CPAP), open airway suctioning, sputum induction, high flow nasal cannula (HFNC).

Version History

DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER and TITLE	ACTION TAKEN
24-Mar-2020	C-0506-07-60576 AGMP Procedures Only Personal Protective Equipment Donning and Doffing	Developed by Professional Practice Leader, Nursing; Approved by Professional Practice Director
23-Apr-2020	"	Updated; Approved by Professional Practice Director
04-May-2020	"	Updated; Approved by Professional Practice Director

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