

# COVID-19 DONNING PPE

Healthcare workers (HCW) and paramedics need to follow proper donning and doffing procedures for personal protective equipment (PPE). Refer to your employer's respiratory protection program and any specific COVID-19 protocols and checklists. Ensure these documents are informed by the most up-to-date guidance documents and case definition from the Ontario Ministry of Health.

Surgical/procedural masks are typically used for worker protection during contact and droplet precautions. FDA-cleared surgical masks are designed to protect against splashes and sprays and are prioritized for use when such exposures are anticipated, including surgical procedures. Where supplies are not limited, and medically suitable, they are also utilized with patients/residents/clients as a form of source control.

Workers should use as a minimum a N95 respirators, approved equivalent or better protection (N99/100, R&P95/99/100, elastomeric with particulate filters/cartridges, PAPRs when caring for patients and/or involved with tasks that have the risk of airborne transmission for infectious diseases (e.g., aerosol-generating procedures). HCW and paramedics should refer to the most up-to-date understanding of the modes of transmission for COVID-19 and complete a Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) with each patient interaction.

Regular training and monitoring on the use of mask, respirators and other PPE is critical to ensure measure and procedures are followed consistently and to maintain worker health and safety.



**1**  
Perform  
Hand Hygiene



**2**  
Put on Gown



**3**  
Put on Surgical/Procedural  
Mask or N95 Respirator  
and Perform Seal Check



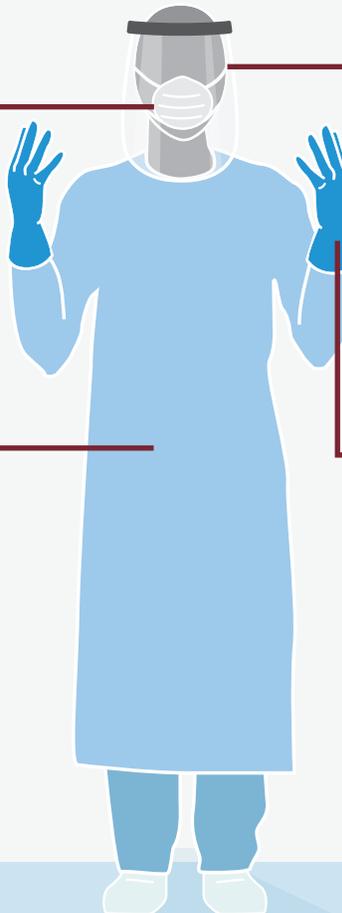
**4**  
Put on  
Eye Protection



**5**  
Put on Gloves

## Mask or Respirator

NIOSH approved N95 respirators or approved equivalent need to be fit-tested and seal checked



## Eye Protection

- Face shield that covers the entire front (that extends to the chin or below) and sides of the face
- Goggles should not interfere with the respirator seal or placement of surgical/procedural mask
- Safety glasses should be low profile and wrap around temples

## Gown

Extends down to wrists and preferably mid-calf

## Gloves

Ensure gloves cover cuffs of gown and that no skin is exposed

You must have received PPE training and successfully completed donning and doffing practical testing before conducting further assessment and testing. Keep gloved hands away from face at all times. Avoid touching PPE once care has begun. Replace damaged gloves immediately and perform hand hygiene. Whenever screening/triage is conducted in the absence of a suitable structural barrier, PPE must be worn at all times if less than 2 meters. If direct care is required for a patient/resident/client who screens positive, immediately don PPE.

# DONNING PPE DESCRIPTION

This checklist is designed to assist healthcare workers (HCWs) and paramedics on the correct donning of personal protective equipment (PPE).

**Please Note: This is a sample checklist** that may need to be adapted to meet relevant standards of practice and / or specific manufacturer's user instructions for variations of approved PPE.

**Before you begin**, tie back long hair and secure in place, remove personal items such as hand and wrist jewelry, gather and inspect PPE carefully. It is important to select the correct size of PPE and ensure that it is in good sanitary and working condition. Damaged or defective PPE should not be used.

## DONNING PPE PROCEDURE

### Perform hand hygiene

- Use alcohol-based rub (ABHR) or soap and water
- Allow hands to dry completely

### Put on gown

- Tie straps at back, or if possible, off set to side to facilitate doffing
- Adjust to cover intended areas
- Verify proper fit of PPE to allow for unrestricted movement

### Put on mask or N95 respirator

For surgical procedural masks:

- Apply mask as per manufacturer's user instructions
- Place mask over nose, mouth, and under chin
- Fit flexible nosepiece to bridge of nose
- Verify proper fit of PPE

For N95 respirators:

- Apply respirator as per manufacturer's user instructions
- Fit flexible nose piece to bridge of nose
- Perform seal check for respirator

### Put on eye protection (face shield or goggles)

- Ensure face shield provides coverage to entire front and sides of face; adjust to fit OR:
- Ensure goggles do not interfere with the seal of the N95 respirator or or surgical/procedural mask placement

### Put on gloves (over cuffs of gown)

- Ensure gloves cover cuffs of gown and that no skin is exposed
- Adjust and verify proper fit of PPE