



**GUIDELINES FOR USE OF  
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE  
EQUIPMENT (PPE)  
DURING COVID-19**

# GUIDELINES ON PPE MANAGEMENT\*

Our healthcare workers are at the frontlines of battling the COVID-19 pandemic, risking their own health every day to provide care to those affected by the virus. It is therefore absolutely crucial that all healthcare workers have access to high-quality Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as well as accurate guidelines for their use. Here are a few tips.

## WHAT'S IN A PPE KIT?



**GLOVES**



**FACE HOOD**



**N-95/SURGICAL MASK**



**GOWN/COVERALL**



**HEAD & SHOE COVER**



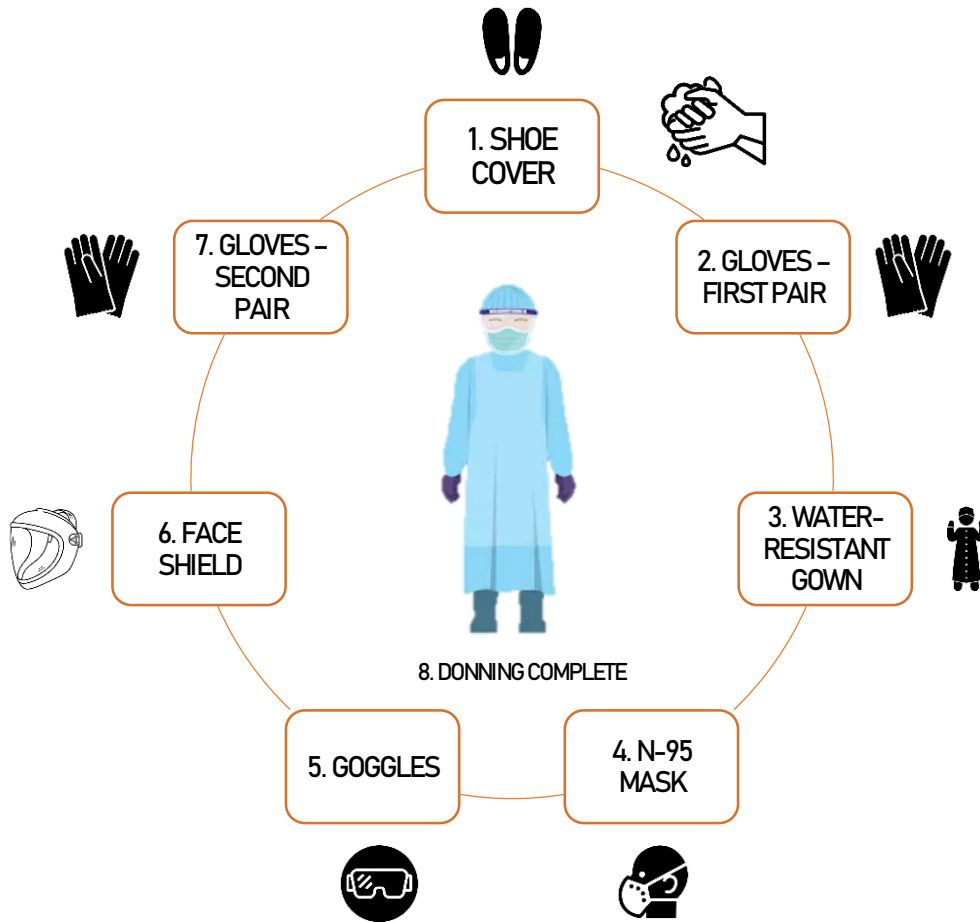
**GOGGLES**

# BASED ON YOUR RISK LEVEL, WHICH PPE DO YOU NEED TO WEAR?

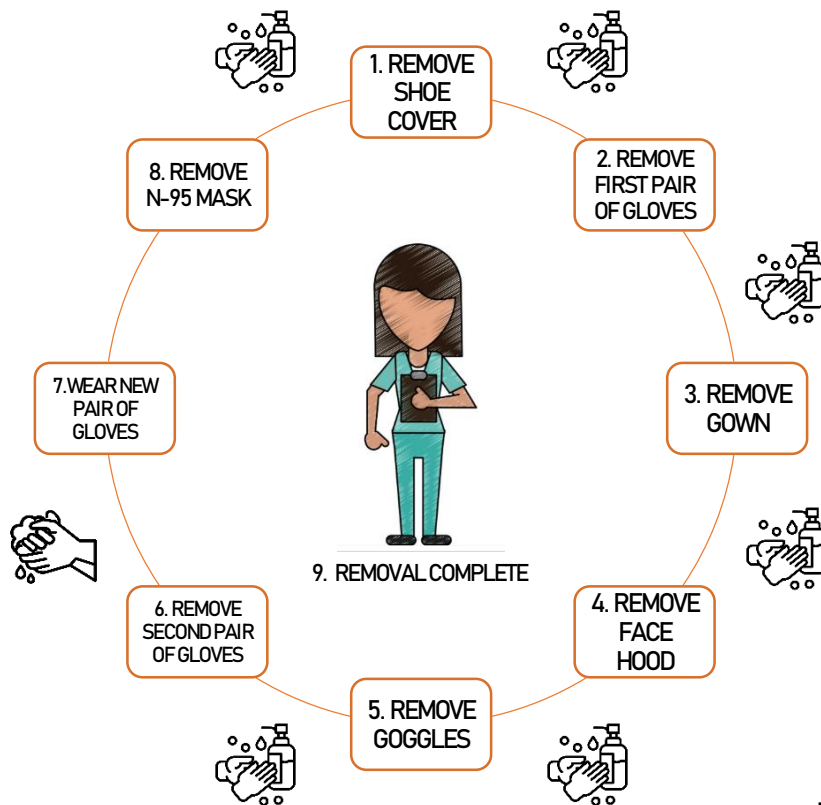
IF YOU WORK IN....	...YOU NEED TO WEAR						
	SURGICAL GLOVES (DOUBLE)	N-95 MASK	TRIPLE-LAYER MASK	WATER-RESISTANT GOWN/OVERALL	GOGGLES	FACE HOOD	HEAD & SHOE COVER
COVID-Screening OPD	✓	✓		✓	✓		
COVID-Screening OPD (Sampling)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Laboratory (Handling COVID samples)	✓	For respiratory samples only	✓	✓	✓		
COVID ICU	✓	✓		✓ + inner gown	✓ If face hood unavailable	✓	✓
COVID Ward	✓	✓		✓	✓ If face hood unavailable	✓	✓
Radiology			✓				
OPD (non-COVID patients)			✓				
Ambulance	✓	✓		✓	✓		


For sanitation staff in a COVID ICU, a full PPE kit is required, along with gum boots and heavy duty gloves. OPD and Ambulance sanitation staff must wear a triple-layer mask and heavy duty gloves. Ambulance driver must wear a triple-layer mask. No PPE is required for staff working in administrative and office areas.


# PROCEDURE OF DONNING PPE



# PROCEDURE OF DOFFING PPE



 = wash hands

 = disinfect gloves

**POINTS TO NOTE:**  
\*constant sanitization of hands is extremely crucial  
\*areas for donning and doffing should be separate

# CAN YOU REUSE YOUR PPE?

Countries around the world are facing PPE shortages for frontline workers. This has sparked debate on the re-use of PPE to deal with these shortages. On April 8, AIIMS issued guidelines on the re-use of PPE. They stated that decontamination of PPE kits for reuse is not recommended and should only be considered as extraordinary last-resort measures. However, the guidelines also said that decontamination and re-use of PPE may be a solution to combat the shortage of supplies at the moment. AIIMS recommends the following methods of disinfecting PPE for reuse:



**Coveralls and N95 masks:** Doubling dilution of 11 per cent hydrogen peroxide vapour in a sealed room



**Face shields and goggles:** 0.5 per cent sodium hypochlorite solution and 70 per cent alcohol

To know more about extended use and limited re-use of N95 masks, as well as the ways in which N95 respirators can be disinfected for re-use, please refer to the videos in this link: <https://www.intelehealth.org/ppe-faqs>

*For more information, please refer to the following links:*

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare: <https://bit.ly/MoHFWIndia> ; <https://bit.ly/UpdatedMoHFW>
- World Health Organisation: <https://bit.ly/WHOppe1>
- FOGSI: <https://bit.ly/FOGSIin>
- Intelehealth: <https://bit.ly/intelehealth>

*You can also watch the following videos:*

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KleTR6UdVuk> (MoHFW)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hl3fmOfGtsc> (Intelehealth)

# GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVES ON QUALITY OF PPE

After healthcare workers all over the country raised concerns over the quality of PPE available in the market, the Government of India introduced stringent protocols for quality assurance of PPE. To this end, the nodal procuring agency of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, HLL Lifecare Limited, is procuring PPE coveralls from manufacturers or suppliers only after getting them tested and approved by one of the eight labs nominated by the Ministry of Textiles (MoT).

According to Ministry of Textiles notifications issued on April 22 for coveralls and April 24 for the fabric, any domestic manufacturer of a coverall or fabric applying for approval certifications will have to attach a notarised affidavit declaring they are not traders. They need to state that they are manufacturers and they will not get into commercial production of the material.

There are some state-specific guidelines as well. For instance, the Maharashtra government announced early April that PPE kits and N-95 masks made by private firms can not be sold unless certified by the state-run Haffkine Biopharmaceuticals Corporation.

To read more, visit the following links:

- <https://bit.ly/3c6SvR3>
- <https://bit.ly/2ZINsDB>
- <https://bit.ly/2X876qY>
- <https://bit.ly/3d64bVk>

# ANNEXURE 1: PPE REQUIRED FOR OPD IN NON-COVID HOSPITALS\*

SETTING	ACTIVITY	RECOMMENDED PPE	REMARKS
Help desk/ Registration counter	Provide information to patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	Physical distancing to be followed at all times
Doctors chamber	Clinical management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	No aerosol generating procedures should be allowed
Chamber of Dental/ENT doctors/ Ophthalmology	Clinical management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N-95 mask</li> <li>• Goggles</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> <li>• Face shield (when a splash of body fluid is expected)</li> </ul>	Aerosol generating procedures anticipated
Pre- anesthetic check-up clinic	Pre-anesthetic check-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N-95 mask</li> <li>• Goggles*</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	* Only recommended when close examination of oral cavity/dentures is to be done
Pharmacy counter	Distribution of drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	Frequent use of hand sanitizer is advised over gloves
Sanitary staff	Cleaning frequently touched surfaces/ Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	

*\* These guidelines apply to non-COVID hospitals and non-COVID treatment areas of a hospital which has a COVID block*

## ANNEXURE 2: PPE REQUIRED FOR IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT\*

SETTING	ACTIVITY	RECOMMENDED PPE	REMARKS
Ward/individual rooms	Clinical management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	Patients stable. No aerosol generating activity
ICU/Critical care	Clinical care management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N-95 mask</li> <li>• Goggles</li> <li>• Nitrile examination gloves</li> <li>• Face shield (when a splash of body fluid is expected)</li> </ul>	Aerosol generating activities performed
Labor room	Intra-partum care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple Layer medical mask</li> <li>• Face shield</li> <li>• Sterile latex gloves</li> <li>• Coverall</li> <li>• N-95 mask, if the pregnant woman is a resident of a containment zone</li> </ul>	Patient to be masked in the Labor room, if possible
Operation Theatre	Performing surgery, administering general anaesthesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple Layer medical mask</li> <li>• Face shield (wherever feasible)</li> <li>• Sterile latex gloves</li> <li>• Goggles**</li> <li>• N-95 mask***</li> </ul>	<p>OT staff will already be wearing</p> <p>**for personnel involved in aerosol generating procedures</p> <p>***if the person being operated upon is a resident of a containment zone</p>
Sanitation staff	Cleaning frequently touched surfaces/floor/changing linen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple layer medical mask</li> <li>• Latex examination gloves</li> </ul>	

\* These guidelines apply to non-COVID hospitals and non-COVID treatment areas of a hospital which has a COVID block