

Purpose

To ensure that employees and clients are protected when there is a risk of exposure to communicable diseases/blood and other body fluids, and to prevent infection spreading further. To advise employees;

- which type of personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn;
- when it must be worn;
- how to use it correctly;
- how to store the PPE;
- how to dispose of it safely.

1. Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided by CPL and must be used when there is a risk of exposure to communicable diseases/blood and other body fluids. This includes contact with non-intact skin, skin rashes, and mucous membranes. All body fluids and substances are potentially infectious.

All PPE must be stored;

- in a sealed container easily accessible,
- in a safe, cool place,
- away from direct sunlight,
- away from other chemicals/medications

PPE	When to use	Why necessary	How to fit/remove	Disposal	Limitations
P1 Surgical Masks	Employees have a higher potential to be frequently exposed to patients who are suspected or confirmed of having COVID-19 through close contact during personal care. They are required to wear a surgical mask to protect themselves from infectious illnesses and help stop the spread of the disease.	Facial protection, such as eye wear or surgical masks, whilst not required for general personal care, must be worn as additional precautions if there is a risk of a splash or spray to the face of blood, body fluids or mucous.	Click on link Whilst hands are still gloved untie at the back or remove straps from ears and place in the bin, do not touch the mask itself.	Place in rubbish bag, tie up and double bag before dropping into disposal bins – followed by hand wash procedure.	One use only and must be fitted correctly, does not fit well with beards.

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	If a client is wearing an N95 respirator mask that is sealed correctly, staff may wear a p.1 mask.				
P2 Respirator N95	P2 (or N95) masks can be used for increased protection from contagions. They should be worn if the infected person is unable to wear one or if unreliable with sealing it or keeping it in place. Masks requires correct fitting and sealing, once applied mask should not be touched unless removing it. Masks are single use only.	Facial protection, such as eye wear or surgical masks, whilst not required for general personal care, must be worn as additional precautions if there is a risk of a splash or spray to the face of blood, body fluids or mucous.	Click on link When removing masks, use gloved hands and remove from the back. Pull the lower strap up to the upper strap, then remove both straps over the top of the head, ensuring contact is <u>not</u> made with the front of the mask. Place immediately in the bin. If for protection from positive Covid-19, this should be done once the room door is closed.	Place in rubbish bag, tie up and double bag before dropping into disposal bins – followed by hand wash procedure.	One use only and must be fitted correctly, does not fit well with beards.
Gloves	During all personal care with clients. Managing clients that have a suspected communicable disease	Where barrier nursing in place, gloves should be applied prior to entering and removed at the door on the way out.	Click on link	Place in rubbish bag, tie up and double bag before dropping into disposal bins – followed by hand wash procedure.	Gloves are intended for single use only Gloves are not a substitute for hand washing and hand

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	to reduce skin on skin contact and prevent bacteria transmission.	Hands should be washed immediately 'prior to and after' use.			hygiene must be performed following glove removal.
Aprons	To create a barrier between DSW and contagious fluids single use plastic full sleeved aprons must be worn as additional precautions where there is potential for contamination of clothing and skin with blood or body fluids.	Reduces risk of transmission from clothing	Whilst hands are gloved untie / rip the tie at the back, and tear strap at the neck (do not remove over-head), place in the bin and then remove gloves and wash hands as per gloves recommendation.	Place in rubbish bag, tie up and double bag before dropping into disposal bins – followed by hand wash procedure.	Gowns are to be disposable, single-use full sleeved items and must be changed between clients.
Hand sanitiser	Hand hygiene is one of the most important measures in preventing transmission of infection. Hands can become contaminated from touching contaminated surfaces or by being contaminated through coughing, sneezing, rubbing eyes etc.	Perform hand hygiene before and after all patient contact, contact with potentially infectious material, and before putting on and after removing PPE, including gloves. Hand hygiene after removing PPE is particularly important to remove any pathogens that might have been transferred to bare hands during the removal process.	Click on link	Once empty place in plastic recycle bin or keep bottle for refill of hand sanitiser.	Alcohol based 60% ethanol preferred
Wipes	Immediate and effective cleaning of high risk touch items including door handles, keyboards, rails. With most recommended products neutralising 99.9% bacteria.	Used for cleansing of surfaces or items that will not be damaged by products contained within the wipes. Wear gloves when using wipes.	Click on link	Place in rubbish bag, tie up and double bag before dropping into disposal bins – not into toilets.	Alcohol based 60% ethanol wipes preferred – correct disposal

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		Use 'S' shaped wiping strategy to ensure all areas wiped. Check visually that areas are 'wet' to demonstrate contact with wipe and alcohol solution.		Followed by hand wash procedure.	
Disinfection spray	Fast and effective killing agents for all virus and bacteria. For use on all surfaces to wipe down and to reduce transmission rates.	All surfaces will require regular spraying and wiping to reduce the transmission risk. Any droplets or mucous will be neutralised by the disinfection spray.	Click on link	Follow SDS guides	Required SDS, must be secured away, possibility of accidental poisoning, PIC 13 11 26
Eye protection	Facial protection, such as eye wear or surgical masks, whilst not required for general personal care, must be worn as additional precautions if there is a risk of a splash or spray to the face of blood, body fluids or mucous.	Reduces transmission of viruses/bacteria via blood, body fluids or mucous.	Take care when putting on ensuring eye protection arms are extended and free from the eye socket to avoid injuries to eyes.	When non-disposable safety glasses are used, they must be allocated to a single employee, cleaned with warm water and detergent after use and stored dry between use. Followed by hand wash procedure.	They must be replaced when showing signs of deterioration.