COVID-19 DOFFING 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.

Regular training and monitoring on the use and care of surgical/procedural masks, respirators and other PPE is critical to ensure measure and procedures are followed consistently and to ensure worker health and safety.

Note: Hand hygiene should be performed after removing PPE, before hands approach the face and any time hand contamination is identified or suspected during the doffing process. PPE must be removed slowly and carefully and in the correct sequence to avoid selfand cross-contamination of the workplace.











Remove Gown

Perform Hand Hygiene

Remove **Eye Protection**

Remove Surgical/ **Procedural Mask** or N95 Respirator

Perform Hand Hygiene

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 further assessment or testing is conducted. Keep gloved hands away from face at all times. Avoid touching PPE once care has begun (unless special contingency and crisis conditions apply). Replace damaged gloves immediately and perform hand hygiene. Remember to safely dispose of PPE into a waste container immediately after removing.











DOFFING PPE DESCRIPTION

This checklist is designed to assist healthcare workers (HCWs) and paramedics on the correct doffing 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.

If gown and gloves are removed together, ensure ties are loosened, if applicable, by another worker. This doffing technique involves the worker crossing their arms and grabbing the gown at the opposite shoulders while inverting the gown and rolling the gloves and gown into a bundle away from the body.

Note: Hand hygiene should be performed after removing PPE, before hands approach the face and any time hand contamination is identified or suspected during the doffing process.

PPE must be removed slowly and carefully and in the correct sequence to avoid self-and cross-contamination of the workplace.

DOFFING PPE PROCEDURE

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- Inspect gloves for visible contamination, cuts or tears before removing
- ☐ Take care to avoid touching the outside of the gloves with bare skin
- ☐ Dispose carefully into waste container

Remove gown

- ☐ Unfasten ties. Avoid contact of inner clothing with outer surface of gown during removal, touching inside of the gown only
- □ Dispose into waste container

Perform hand hygiene

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

Remove eye protection

- Remove face shield or goggles by grasping band at back of head and lifting gently over head and away from face
- □ Dispose into waste container

Remove mask or N95 respirator

For surgical procedural masks:

- □ Untile bottom strap then top strap or grasp loops off and lift over ears
- ☐ Gently pull mask forward away from face
- □ Dispose into waste container

For N95 respirators:

- ☐ Grab bottom strap and lift over head
- Lean forward and grab top strap; gently lift over head and away from face
- ☐ Take care to not touch the front of the respirator
- □ Dispose into waste container

Perform hand hygiene

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











