



2020 March 29th Topic
(SARS-CoV-2 is the virus and COVID-19 is the disease)

1. What PPE is recommended for routine care of a suspected or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) case?

Droplet and contact precautions need to be in place while you are caring for a suspected or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) case, including during initial triaging. This means:

- single-use face mask (surgical mask)
- eye protection (for example, safety glasses/goggles or face shield. Note: prescription glasses are not sufficient protection.)
- long-sleeved gown
- gloves (non-sterile)

Masks, gloves and gowns are not to be worn outside of patient rooms - remove before caring for non COVID-19 pts.

2. Making up your bleach (Middlesex -London Health Unit)

- A bleach and water solution should be mixed daily to preserve its strength
- **Leave the solution on the surface for a minimum of one minute**
- Cleaning must be done prior to disinfecting

For approximately 1000 ppm

Preparing a 1: 50 Household Bleach Solution:

- 20 ml (4 teaspoons) household bleach + 1000 ml (4 cups) water

3. PHLN guidance on laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 (virus that causes COVID-19) 13th March

- to collect combined nasopharyngeal/nasal and oropharyngeal swabs, stand slightly to the side of the patient to avoid exposure to respiratory secretions, should the patient cough or sneeze; and oropharyngeal (throat): swab the tonsillar beds and the back of the throat, avoiding the tongue

4. From Health WA website Mar 20

Surgical and P2/N95 Masks Surgical and P2/N95 masks do not need to be removed between each patient. These masks can remain in place until they become saturated with the wearer's respirations or they are visibly soiled or contaminated by patient respiratory droplets or secretions. If mask is touched during use it must be changed. P2/N95 masks must not be used by patients under any circumstances and only worn by healthcare workers (HCW) or other personnel when aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) are performed or when HCWs require to attend hospitalised, acutely unwell patients requiring frequent close or prolonged contact. Environmental cleaning staff do not require to wear surgical or P2/N95 masks for routine environmental cleaning in COVID-19 areas.

Goggles and face visors do not need to be removed between each patient. These items can remain in place for extended periods. Care should be taken not to touch the goggles or face visors whilst in use. Goggles or face visors require to be worn whenever a surgical or P2/N95 mask is required to be worn, however, the goggles or faces visors do not need to be changed when the mask is changed. If, after risk assessment, re-use is considered appropriate, then goggles and face visors should be cleaned and disinfected using an appropriate hospital grade solution or wipe each time the goggles or visors are removed. Due to the difficulty in cleaning the foam backing to the face visor, these should be reserved for individual staff member use.

Fantastic websites in addition to Australian Dept of Health and your state version

[Johns Hopkins CSSE – Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Global Cases \(external site\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/face-masks.html)

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