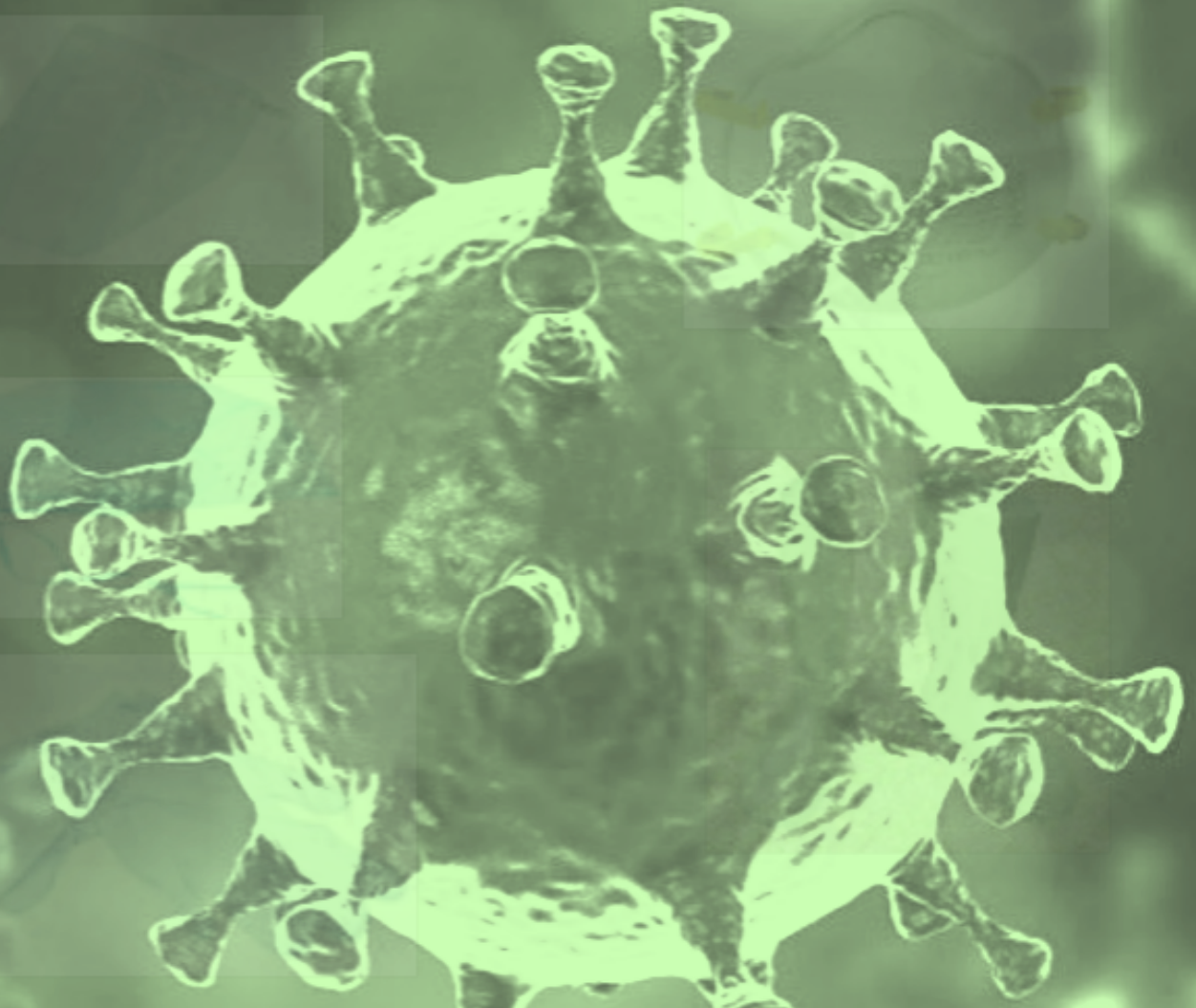




Recommended Type of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) used in COVID-19 According to Setting, Personnel and Type of Activity



Ministry of Health

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HIGHLIGHTS ON USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be used based on the risk of exposure (e.g., type of activity) and the transmission dynamics of the pathogen (e.g., contact, droplet or aerosol). The overuse of PPE will have a further impact on supply shortages. Observing the following recommendations will ensure that the use of PPEs is rationalized.

The type of PPE used when caring for COVID-19 patients will vary according to the setting and type of personnel and activity (see *Tables below*).

Healthcare Workers (HCWs) involved in the direct care of patients should use the following PPE: gowns, gloves, medical mask and eye protection (goggles or face shield).

Specifically, for Aerosol-generating Procedures (AGP) (e.g., tracheal intubation, non-invasive ventilation, tracheostomy, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, manual ventilation before intubation, bronchoscopy) HCWs should use respirators, eye protection, gloves and gowns; aprons should also be used if gowns are not fluid resistant.

Respirators (e.g., N95, FFP2 or equivalent standard) can be worn without removing them while caring for multiple patients who have the same diagnosis. They maintain their protection when used for extended periods. However, using one respirator for longer than 4 hours can lead to discomfort and should be avoided.

Among the **general public**, persons with respiratory symptoms or those caring for COVID-19 patients at home should receive *medical masks*.

For **asymptomatic individuals**, wearing a ***mask of any type other than medical mask is recommended***. Wearing medical masks when they are not indicated may cause unnecessary cost and a procurement burden and create a false sense of security that can lead to the neglect of other essential preventive measures.

Recommended type of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be used in the context of COVID-19 disease, according to the setting, personnel and type of activity

| Inpatient settings | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Area | Target personnel | Activity | Type of PPE or IPC precaution |
| Patient room | Healthcare workers | Providing direct care to COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection • goggles or face shield |
| | | Aerosol-generating procedures performed on COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respirator N95 or FFP2 standard, or equivalent • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection • Apron |
| | Cleaners | Entering the room of COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash from organic material or chemicals) • Boots or closed work shoes |
| | Visitors | Entering the room of a COVID-19 patient | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves |
| | All staff, including healthcare workers | Any activity that does not involve contact with COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Face Mask |
| Other areas of patient transit (e.g. wards, corridors) | All staff, including healthcare workers | Any activity that does not involve contact with COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| Triage | Healthcare workers | Preliminary screening not involving direct contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Medical mask |
| | Patients with respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Provide medical mask if tolerated by patient |
| | Patients without respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Medical mask |
| Laboratory | Lab technician | Manipulation of respiratory samples | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash) |
| Administrative areas | All staff, including healthcare workers | Administrative tasks that do not involve contact with COVID-19 patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |

| Outpatient setting | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Area | Target personnel | Activity | Type of PPE or IPC precaution |
| Consultation room | Healthcare workers | Physical examination of patient with respiratory symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection |
| | Healthcare workers | Physical examination of patients without respiratory symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE according to standard precautions and risk assessment |
| | Patients with respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide medical mask if tolerated |
| | Patients without respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| | Cleaners | After and between consultations with patients with respiratory symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash from organic material or chemicals) • Boots or closed work shoes |
| Waiting room | Patients with respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide medical mask if tolerated • Immediately move the patient to an isolation room or separate area away from others; if this is not feasible, ensure spatial distance of at least 1m from other patients |
| | Patients without respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| Administrative areas | All staff, including healthcare workers | Administrative Tasks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| Triage | Healthcare workers | Preliminary screening not involving direct contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m. • Face Mask |
| | Patients with respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Provide medical mask if tolerated |
| | Patients without respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| Mortuary/Burial teams | All staff | Handling the dead body | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash) • Boots or closed work shoes |

| Community | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Home | Patients with respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Provide medical mask if tolerated |
| | Caregiver | Entering the patient's room, but not providing direct care or assistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask |
| | Caregiver | Providing direct care or when handling stool, urine or waste from COVID-19 patient being cared for at home | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves • Medical mask • Apron (if risk of splash) |
| | Healthcare workers | Providing direct care or assistance to a COVID-19 patient at home | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection |
| | Healthcare workers (Rapid response teams, Contact tracing) | Response to suspected COVID-19 cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves |
| | Healthcare workers (Rapid response teams, Contact tracing) | Response to suspected COVID-19 cases and collecting a sample | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection |
| Public areas (e.g., schools, shopping malls, train stations) | Individuals without respiratory symptoms | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |

Use of Personal Protective Equipment for COVID-19

| Points of entry | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Administrative areas | All Staff | Any | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Mask |
| Screening | Staff | First screening (temperature measurement) not involving direct contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Medical mask |
| | Staff | Second screening (i.e., interviewing passengers with fever for clinical symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 disease and travel history) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gloves |
| | Cleaners | Cleaning the area where passengers with fever are being screened | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash from organic material or chemicals) • Boots or closed work shoes |
| Temporary isolation area | Staff | Entering the isolation area, but not providing direct assistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1m • Medical mask • Gloves |
| | Staff, healthcare workers | Assisting passenger being transported to a healthcare facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Gloves • Eye protection |
| | Cleaners | Cleaning isolation area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash from organic material or chemicals) • Boots or closed work shoes |
| Ambulance or transfer vehicle | Healthcare workers | Transporting suspected COVID-19 patients to the referral healthcare facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gowns • Gloves • Eye protection |
| | Driver | Involved only in driving the patient with suspected COVID-19 disease and the driver's compartment is separated from the COVID-19 patient | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain spatial distance of at least 1 m • Face Mask |
| | | Assisting with loading or unloading patient with suspected COVID-19 disease | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gowns • Gloves • Eye protection |
| | | No direct contact with patient with suspected COVID-19, but no separation between driver's and patient's compartments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask |
| | Patient with suspected COVID-19 disease | Transport to the referral healthcare facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask if tolerated |
| | Cleaners | Cleaning after and between transport of patients with suspected COVID-19 disease to the referral healthcare facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical mask • Gown • Heavy duty gloves • Eye protection (if risk of splash from organic material or chemicals) • Boots or closed work shoes |