
Infection Control in the Home: Using PPE in the COVID-19 Pandemic 3.30.20 1600

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1. **Prior to every visit, ask the patient the communicable disease questions. Verify symptoms of anyone in the home.** Encourage social distancing of 6 feet and encourage a separate room as able.
2. **If symptomatic with fever, new or changed cough, or having difficulty breathing – Clinical Staff to make home visit.** Ask patient / family the best place to don and doff PPE if they have a good spot outside if appropriate.
3. **Prior to or immediately upon entering the home, don all appropriate PPE using current Spectrum Health Don and Doff information.**
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Put on gown
 - Put on mask with shield or use goggles and standard mask
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Put on gloves
 - Leave waste bag in safe location just inside the home in preparation for end of visit.
 - N-95 masks are not to be used during routine visits – only use if ... aerosolized treatments when in the home. Place N-95 mask in paper bag, do not throw away.
 - For standard Mask: If seeing COVID-19 suspected or confirmed, when your mask is removed, place your mask in a paper bag. Perform hand hygiene. Discard mask at end of your day
4. **Remove PPE using appropriate method and dispose in waste bag.**
 - Remove gloves
 - Remove gown
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Remove goggles
 - Goggles are to be sanitized and reused, do not throw away
 - Remove mask/mask with shield and place in a new bag **for reuse**
 - Put bag into a bigger bag in car between visits
 - Request family to place bag in appropriate receptacle in the home.
 - **Do not remove PPE in your car for your safety and appropriate infection control practices.** If no other option, place disposable PPE in waste bag and double bag in red isolation waste bag and return to the office. Keep bag in designated dirty part of your trunk and return to office as soon as possible.
5. N-95 masks are to be used if aerosolized treatments are required during your visit, including nebulizer treatments, Cpap and BiPap.
6. If obtaining a swab specimen to test for COVID-19, use isolation mask and refer to swabbing for COVID-19 standard of work.