

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Conservation Efforts: Equipment Processing

Due the COVID-19 situation, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will need to be conserved by all personnel. The following guidance applies to Central Sterile Processing and clinics using high level disinfection to clean equipment. It is recommended that each area assign a point person who will oversee storage and distribution of PPE.

Central Sterile Processing:

- 1. Staff will only use PPE when it is required to perform their duties.**
 2. Staff will receive one set of PPE at the beginning of their shift.
 - Masks and gowns can be reused until they become soiled or saturated with moisture, and staff should request replacement PPE.
 - Eye shields and masks with eye protection can be wiped with an alcohol based disinfectant (i.e. purple top PDI wipes, pre-moistened alcohol pads, disposable cloth moistened with 70% ethyl alcohol) to clean between use.
 3. Face masks, masks with eye protection (shields or goggles) and impermeable gowns will be reused throughout a shift.
 4. For patients in contact or enteric precautions, dispose of the isolation gown after use.
 5. For all other patients, disposable gowns can be reused if not soiled.
 6. When not in use, PPE should be stored in a way that prevents contamination, labelled with the staff member's name.
 7. Discard PPE when it becomes visibly soiled and at the end of the shift.
- A. Clinics that perform high level disinfection and/or sterilization procedures (i.e. urology, otolaryngology (ENT), urgent care, OB/GYN):**
- 1. Staff will only use PPE when it is required to perform their duties.**
 2. Masks and gowns can be reused until they become soiled or saturated with moisture, and staff will request for replacement PPE.
 3. Face masks, masks with eye protection (shields or goggles) and gowns will be reused throughout a shift.

4. Eye shields and masks with eye protection can be wiped with an alcohol based disinfectant (i.e. purple top PDI wipes, pre-moistened alcohol pads, disposable cloth moistened with 70% ethyl alcohol) to clean between use.
5. When not in use, PPE should be stored in a way that prevents contamination, labelled with the staff member's name.
 - Masks will be hung up in a designated area as determined by the clinic lead.
 - Gowns should be hung up in a designated area as determined by the department lead