

Universal Use of Eye Protection

As of January 7th, 2022, healthcare workers (HCWs) across all areas of the organization are required to wear universal eye protection in addition to masks.

Key points

- All healthcare workers are to wear eye protection as they enter the building, following the same rules of wearing a mask when entering the building.
- Face-shields are available in the clean cores and PPE depot. Safety glasses and goggles are available in the PPE depot. Clean product that appears damaged can be returned to the depot for replacement.
- Avoid touching the front of your eye protection. If you do, perform hand hygiene immediately.
- If you need to remove eye protection to put on other items of PPE, you can do so safely following the PPE donning and doffing guidance
- If eye protection becomes damaged it must be discarded and new eye protection obtained.
- Face shields should be utilized for all AGMPs

Face Shields:

- If you remove your face shield, you must discard it and obtain a new clean one.
 - **For Non-Clinical Areas:**
 - Goggles are preferred
 - Face shields should be used for one shift and discarded
 - **For Clinical Areas:**
 - Face shields should be discarded prior to eating/drinking during breaks. After break obtain a new face shield.
 - For simple, short patient care activities with COVID +/-suspect patients and all other patients (ie. dropping off meal tray), extended use of face shields may be utilized
 - HCWs should perform a Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) to determine if the face shield should be discarded.
 - Face shields used for AGMPs, should be discarded after one use.

Goggles:

- If you remove your goggles for any reason, you must clean and reuse or discard it
 - **For Non-Clinical Areas:**
 - Goggles must be cleaned after removing using the steps on page 2
 - **For Clinical Areas:**
 - For simple, short patient care activities with COVID +/-suspect patients and all other patients (i.e. dropping off meal tray), extended use of goggles may be utilized
 - HCWs should perform a PCRA to determine if the goggles should be cleaned between encounters

Cleaning and Storing Eye Glasses /Goggles

Clean by placing eye glasses/goggles on a flat surface*

- a. Perform hand hygiene & put on gloves
- b. Remove eye glasses/goggles & assess for damage. Discard if damaged. If not, continue to step (c)
- c. Wipe inside & side frame. Wipe the straps. In case the straps are not wipeable please discard after use. If not, continue to step (d)
- d. Wipe outside using the same hospital-approved disinfectant wipe, then discard wipe
- e. Allow glasses/goggles to fully dry (~2-3 mins) on clean paper towel or hanging in a designated clean space*
- f. Once dry, if eye glass or goggle lens has a film from cleaning product on it, wipe with a clean, damp paper towel & wipe again with clean paper towel to dry before putting
- g. Remove & discard gloves and perform hand hygiene