




# Health workers and coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

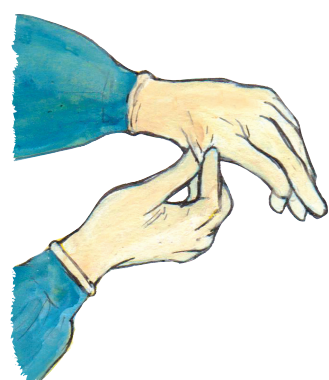
## Wear PPE according to your task

Follow your facility protocols but ensure you are wearing the minimum PPE as below:

<p><b>Low risk areas:</b></p> <p>Clinical areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surgical mask</li> </ul> <p>Non-clinical areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth mask</li> </ul> <p><i>PPE is in short supply: avoid using medical PPE if not in direct contact with patients.</i></p> 	<p><b>High risk areas</b> <b>Managing a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surgical mask</li> <li>• Goggles or visor</li> <li>• Plastic apron</li> <li>• Non-sterile gloves</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Performing aerosol-generating procedure<sup>1</sup> on patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respirator</li> <li>• Goggles or visor</li> <li>• Fluid resistant gown or apron</li> <li>• Non-sterile gloves</li> </ul> 
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<sup>1</sup>Aerosol-generating procedures include: collecting respiratory specimens (nasal- or oropharyngeal swabs), chest physiotherapy, nebulisers, sputum induction, endotracheal intubation. Avoid nebulisers and sputum induction if suspected/confirmed COVID-19.

## Change or clean your PPE when needed



### Gloves

Change between each patient.

### Goggles/visor

Clean and disinfect after removing.



### Apron/gown

Change between each patient or if short supply, change only if wet, dirty, damaged or after performing aerosol-generating procedure<sup>1</sup>.



### Surgical mask

Discard after the shift or sooner if touched by unwashed hands, or gets wet, dirty or damaged.



### Respirator

- May be reused for up to 1 week. If reusing, perform seal test before each use.
- Discard after 1 week, or sooner if gets wet, dirty or damaged.



**health**

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NICD 24-hour hotline number: 0800 11 1131 or 066 562 4021

[www.sacoronavirus.co.za](http://www.sacoronavirus.co.za)

Source: NDoH. COVID-19 Disease: Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines. 2020  
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