

December 8, 2020

## PPE Policy for COVID Prevention SBAR Update

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### **Situation**

Interim changes to the PPE Policy for COVID Prevention dated December 8, 2020.

### **Background**

Changes to this policy, which is part of our YNHHS Respiratory Protection Program, are due to increased community prevalence of COVID and to reflect updates in public health guidance, new data in the scientific literature and institutional experience.

### **Assessment:**

Periodic assessments and revisions are required to ensure staff and patient safety. YNHHS continues to follow CDC guidance and OSHA standards.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Eye Protection policy changes:
  - Eye protection is to be worn for all patient care activities, hands-on interactions with patients and when entering a patient's room.
  - Eye protection includes face shields or goggles.
  - Safety glasses and prescription eyeglasses do not meet the standard for eye protection per the CDC.
2. Clarification: Respirator use is recommended while caring for any patients receiving the following treatments:
  - High flow nasal device (\* Please see image below)
  - Non-invasive ventilation (BIPAP/CPAP)
3. For person using elastomeric respirators, please review the attached Elastomeric Self Cleaning protocol (attached)
4. Please review the revised, "Process for Extended Use and Reuse of Respirators" document (attached)

## Eye Protection FAQ

Q: Can I use eyeglasses with prescription lenses instead of face shield or safety goggles?

A: No. Eyeglasses designed for ordinary wear do not provide the level of protection necessary to protect against workplace hazards.

Q: Why did we get safety glasses if we are supposed only use face shields or safety goggles?

A: The use of safety goggles is the latest change to the recommendations.

Q: Can I use goggles or face shields that I bought myself?

A: No. Per policy Yale New Haven Health System supplies healthcare workers the necessary equipment and supplies to comply with precautions.

Q: Are face shields and safety goggles all reusable?

A: Yes. They should be cleaned each time they are removed.

Q: How do I clean my face shield and safety goggles?

A: Staff are to disinfect using a hospital approved disinfectant wipe after use. An alcohol swab can be used to remove any film left by the disinfectant. Bleach wipes may be used, but will cause eventual product breakdown.

Q: When do I replace my face shield and/or safety goggles?

A: Equipment should be replaced if they impair vision, are cracked or broken down, are dirty and cannot be cleaned, or are otherwise unusable. They may be replaced at any time during your shift.

Q: I have a face shield which is different than the two below, can I continue to use?

A: Yes, if it was issued by YNHHS

Q: How do I get replacement items?

A: Speak with your supervisor.

Q: Will we ever see different facemasks, safety goggles, and face shields when our current ones need replacement?

A: It is possible different facemasks, safety goggles, and face shields may be purchased in the future if we are unable to purchase the same product. All items will be vetted by Value Analysis and meet regulatory and safety standards.

Q: Which goggles can be worn over glasses?

A: Both goggles shown below can be worn over glasses.

## High flow nasal device



## Face Shields



**McKesson**  
**Infor # 223037**



**Halyard**  
**Infor # 218467**

## Goggles



**Honeywell Stealth Goggles**  
**Infor # 221146**

## References

CDC.gov

<https://www.advisory.com/>

<https://ynhh.ellucid.com>