YOUR PPE CHOICE MATTERS!

WHAT IS PPE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes gear such as gloves, masks, eye protection, and gowns. PPE helps prevent the spread of infectious materials to patients, workspaces, and healthcare environments, while also shielding healthcare workers (HCWs) from blood, body fluids, and other potentially infectious materials during patient care and procedures.

Anticipating risks and using PPE based on task, exposure risk, and isolation precautions ensures the safety of both HCWs and patients.



GOWN

-Provides a protective barrier for skin and clothing

-Shields HCWs from exposure to blood, body fluids, and respiratory droplets.



MEDICAL MASK

-Protect patients and sterile fields by blocking droplets from the wearer's mouth or nose.

-Help shield healthcare workers from splashes and larger respiratory droplets.



N95 MASK

-Protect the wearer from inhaling infectious airborne particles, as well as dust, dirt, and chemical gases or fumes.

-Requires annual fit testing with Team Member Health for proper use.



EYE PROTECTION

-Goggles and face shields help protect HCWs eyes from droplets and splashes during patient care or procedures.



GLOVES

-Protect hands and allow for the safe removal of harmful organisms during patient care.

Proper donning (putting on) and doffing (removing) of PPE are crucial to maximizing its effectiveness and minimizing the risk of contamination. Please refer to BH Policies "PRO-IC-017-BH" and "PRO-IC-018-BH".

Always remember to perform hand hygiene before putting on PPE and after removing PPE.

CDC and OSHA are responsible for the regulation of PPE standards in healthcare settings.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL INFECTION PREVENTIONIST