## Donning and Doffing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

**Effective Date:** May 2020

It is important to don and doff PPE appropriately to ensure personnel protection because PPE could be contaminated with hazardous agents after use.

**Procedure:**

Don PPE in the following order:

1. Lab coat or gown
2. Respiratory protection (surgical mask, respirator) (if needed)
3. Shoe covers and/or bouffant cap (if needed)
4. Face/eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, face mask)—adjust to fit
5. Gloves—extend to cover wrists of lab coat or gown

Doff PPE in the following order:

1. Gloves
   - Avoid touching the outside of the gloves with bare hands
   - Immediately dispose as biohazardous waste
2. Face/eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, face mask)
   - Handle by headband or earpiece
   - Place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste
3. Lab coat or gown
   - Unfasten ties/buttons/snaps
   - Remove by touching the inside of the lab coat/gown only
   - Turn inside out
   - Fold or bundle and place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste
4. Respiratory protection (surgical mask, respirator)
   • Grasp bottom then top ties or elastics and remove
   • Place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste

5. Shoe coverings and/or bouffant cap
   • Remove by touching the inside only
   • Immediately dispose as biohazardous waste

6. Wash hands with soap and water per the Hand Sanitation SOP

Cautions & Considerations

✓ The type of PPE required will vary for different procedures or hazards and is described in lab-specific SOPs
✓ Ensure that PPE fits correctly and covers exposed skin
✓ Change gloves whenever contaminated or compromised
✓ When double gloving, remove and dispose of outer gloves with hands inside the biosafety cabinet then re-don outer gloves after removing hands from the biosafety cabinet
✓ When removing PPE, treat the outside of all items as though contaminated
✓ Remove PPE and wash hands before entering public areas
✓ Keep gloved hands away from face or items that are handled with bare hands
✓ Send reusable PPE for laundering only to an approved cleaning company

Resources
✓ CDC Fact Sheet “How to remove gloves”
✓ CDC Fact Sheet “Sequence for Donning/Doffing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)”