

# An Important Update from the Infection Prevention Team

## Eye Protection Use and Reprocessing as of 12/9/20

### Eye Protection Use

- Eye protection is worn by all clinicians over a surgical mask for the care of all clients during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Put on eye protection (ie, goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face) upon entry to the client room or care area.
- Remove eye protection after leaving the client room or care area and before leaving the client's home.
- Disposable eye protection should be discarded after use.
- Follow [CDC guidelines for proper sequence for putting on and taking off PPE](#).



**IMPORTANT: Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection; cleaning and disinfecting must occur in the client home or care setting.**

### Reprocessing Eye Protection (face shields, goggles)

1. While wearing gloves, wipe the *inside*, followed by the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a clean cloth saturated with mild soap and water or a disinfectant wipe.
2. After cleaning, disinfect the inside followed by the outside of the face shield or goggles with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or 70% isopropyl alcohol. If using an EPA-registered wipe, allow disinfectant to dry on a clean barrier for the full contact time (the time the product must remain wet on the item to effectively disinfect it) specified on the disinfectant directions for use, located on the product. See the [Approved Disinfectant List resource](#). If you are using 70% isopropyl alcohol, use as many alcohol wipes as needed to ensure the entire shield is visibly wet with alcohol, and then allow it to air dry completely.
3. If residue (any small remaining substance) is present, wipe the face shield or goggles with plain water or alcohol to remove residue.
4. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.
5. Store in a clean Ziplock bag.

### Continued maintenance for re-use of eye protection

- Eye protection can be re-used by individual clinicians providing care to clients where risk of exposure to COVID-19 is present.
- Inspect goggles/face shield prior to use.
- Ensure that goggles/face shield are not cracked or otherwise compromised.
- Discard if there is an alteration in the integrity of the goggles/face shield. The face shield or goggles can no longer fasten securely or you can't see through them after following the procedure to remove residue.

## Step-By-Step Instructions on Eye Protection Cleaning and Disinfecting

1

While wearing gloves, wipe the *inside*, followed by the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a clean cloth saturated with mild soap and water or a disinfectant wipe.



2

After cleaning, disinfect the inside followed by the outside of the face shield or goggles with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or 70% isopropyl alcohol. If using an EPA-registered wipe, allow disinfectant to dry on a clean barrier for the full contact time (the time the product must remain wet on the item to effectively disinfect it) specified on the disinfectant directions for use, located on the product. If you are using 70% isopropyl alcohol, use as many alcohol wipes as needed to ensure the entire shield is visibly wet with alcohol, and then allow it to air dry completely.



3

If residue (any small remaining substance) is present, wipe the face shield or goggles with plain water or alcohol to remove residue.



4

Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.



5

Store in a clean Ziplock bag.

