



Preventing COVID-19 in Nursing Homes Eye Protection Protocol

Eye Protection

- Used to protect your eyes from splash or spray
- Must cover the front and entire side around the eyes
- Acceptable examples include safety glasses, goggles, or face shields
- Full-face shields are preferred because they protect your mask from contamination
- NOTE: eyeglasses and contact lenses do NOT provide sufficient protection.



When to Use Eye Protection

- When providing direct care for confirmed or suspect COVID residents
- Remove eye protection when leaving resident room or COVID dedicated area
- Avoid use in hallways or common areas unless in a COVID dedicated area

Donning (Putting On) Eye Protection

- Clean your hands with alcohol hand sanitizer or soap/water
- Follow directions on donning your surgical mask or N95 respirator. Ensure that the mask fits well to minimize the need for adjustment after the face shield is added.
- Holding the face shield with one hand, pull the strap over the top of your head with your other hand
- Adjust the shield to the center of the face, assuring snug fit when moving your head
- If using goggles, assure both sides of the goggles are secured snugly behind your ears
- Follow directions on donning your gown and gloves (see COVID PPE protocol)
- Clean your hands immediately after donning face shield

Doffing (Taking Off) Eye Protection

- Clean your hands with alcohol hand sanitizer or soap/water
- Avoid touching the front of your face shield or goggles
- Face shield removal: tilt your head forward, hold the top of your face shield with one hand, and pull the shield off the top of your head
- If reusing, follow the PPE reuse protocol (See “Eye Protection Reuse Protocol”)
- Goggle removal: tilt your head forward, hold both sides of the goggles and pull away from your face.
- Goggles are usually designed to be reused and should be cleaned with alcohol swab or disinfectant wipe and returned to a clean bag/storage for reuse. (See “Eye Protection Reuse Protocol”)

Keeping Your Eye Protection Clean

- Perform hand hygiene every time before and after touching your face shield/goggles
- Minimize touching your face shield/goggle, especially the inside surfaces
- Clean your face shield/goggle if planning to reuse (see “Eye Protection Reuse Protocol”)