



HOMES AND SENIORS SERVICES

POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER: 2.20

DEPARTMENT: *Infection Control*

SUBJECT: PPE - Gowns

APPROVAL DATE: April 2004

REVISION DATE: Dec. 2020, November 2022

REVIEW DATE: March 2017; Nov 2018; Dec 2019

Page 1 of 2

PURPOSE:

Isolation Gowns, when worn appropriately:

- Provide protection for clothing and prevent the spread of microorganisms between staff members and residents, and resident's environment, as well as visitors and volunteers where applicable.
- Long-sleeved gowns protect the forearms and clothing of the health care provider from splashing and soiling with blood, body fluids and other potentially infectious material.
- Gowns used as personal protective equipment should be cuffed and long-sleeved and offer full coverage of the body front, from neck to mid-thigh or below.

Types of Isolation Gowns:

Disposable: single use; doffed and disposed of after care of resident.

Reusable: removed and laundered after care of resident.

PROCEDURE:

A point of care risk assessment must be completed prior to contact with any resident and / or resident environment. The routine use of gowns for personal care activities is not recommended.

1. Gowns should be used as indicated to protect uncovered skin and prevent soiling of clothing during procedures and resident care activities likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids secretions or excretions.
2. Perform hand hygiene.
3. Put gown on:
 - Insert arms into sleeves.
 - Fasten securely (neck and waist ties).
 - Make sure gown completely covers clothing/uniform.
4. Remove gown:
 - Remove gown in a manner that prevents contamination of clothing or skin
 - Starting at the neck ties, the outer, "contaminated" side of the gown is pulled forward and turned inward, rolled off the arms into a bundle, then discarded immediately in a manner that prevents contamination of clothing or skin and prevents agitation of the gown.
 - Place gown in designated laundry bag/hamper for reusable gowns; or a waste container if disposable
5. Perform hand hygiene.
6. Do not reuse gown. Do not go from resident to resident wearing the same gown.



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Page 2 of 2

Expired Gowns:

- Used for training and demonstration purposes only.

References:

Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) Routine Practices and Additional Precautions in All Health Care Settings, 3rd edition, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, November 2012

Medical Isolation Gowns for COVID-19 in Health Care Settings; PHO; February 2021