

# Checklist for Healthcare Facilities: Summarized CDC Strategies for Optimizing Supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## Eye Protection

### Contingency Capacity<sup>1</sup>:

These practices may be used temporarily when demands exceed resources.

- Selectively cancel elective and non-urgent procedures/appointments for which facemask is typically used
- Shift from disposable to re-usable devices (i.e. goggles or face shields) 
  - Preferential use of PAPRs or full-face elastomeric respirators w/ built-in eye protection
  - Ensure appropriate cleaning/disinfection between users
- Implement extended use (can be applied to disposable and re-usable devices) 
  - Reprocess if visibly soiled or difficult to see<sup>2</sup>
  - Discard if damaged
  - Do not touch. If touched, immediately perform hand hygiene.
  - Leave patient care area to remove.

### Crisis Capacity<sup>3</sup>:

Strategies that are not commensurate with U.S. standards of care.

- Cancel all elective and non-urgent procedures/appointments for which eye protection is typically used
- Use eye protection beyond the manufacturer-designed shelf life 
  - If no date available, contact manufacturer
  - Visually inspect product prior to use
- Prioritize for selected activities (activities where splashes and sprays are anticipated including aerosol generating procedures, activities where prolonged close contact with a potentially infectious patient is unavoidable)
- Consider using safety glasses that have extensions to cover side of the eyes
- Exclude HCP at higher risk for severe illness from contact with known or suspected cases
- Designate convalescent HCP (clinically recovered) to care for known or suspected patients

### Reprocessing Eye Protection

Adhere to manufacturer instructions. When unavailable, consider:

- While wearing gloves, carefully wipe the *inside, followed by the outside* using a clean cloth saturated with neutral detergent solution or cleaner wipe
- Carefully wipe the outside using a wipe or clean cloth saturated with EPA-registered hospital disinfectant
- Wipe the outside with clean water or alcohol to remove residue
- Fully dry (air dry or clean absorbent towels)
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene

**See back for notes**

## Notes

1. **Contingency capacity:** measures may change daily standard practices but may not have any significant impact on the care delivered to the patient or the safety of healthcare personnel (HCP). These practices may be used temporarily when facemask demands exceed resources.
2. If a disposable face shield is reprocessed, it should be dedicated **to one HCP** and reprocessed whenever it is visibly soiled or removed (e.g., when leaving the isolation area) prior to putting it back on. See protocol for removing and reprocessing eye protection.
3. **Crisis capacity:** strategies that are not commensurate with U.S. standards of care. These measures, or a combination of these measures, may need to be considered during periods of expected or known facemask shortages.

### **Contingency and crisis strategies are based upon these assumptions:**

- a) Facilities understand their eye protection inventory and supply chain
- b) Facilities understand their eye protection utilization rate
- c) Facilities are in communication with local healthcare coalitions, federal, state, and local public health partners (e.g., public health emergency preparedness and response staff) regarding identification of additional supplies.
- d) Facilities have already implemented other engineering and administrative control measures including:
  - Reducing the number of patients going to the hospital or outpatient settings
  - Excluding HCP not essential for patient care from entering their care area
  - Reducing face-to-face HCP encounters with patients
  - Excluding visitors to patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19
  - Cohorting patients and HCP
  - Maximizing use of telemedicine
- e) Facilities have provided HCP with required education and training, including having them demonstrate competency with donning and doffing, with any PPE ensemble that is used to perform job responsibilities, such as provision of patient care