

PAPR Hoods: Instructions for Extended Use, Re-Use and Disinfection

*Note: The instructions below for the extended use, re-use and disinfection of PAPR Hoods may be a deviation from our regular practices. These measures are being taken to conserve PPE as part of our COVID-19 response. **Please follow instructions below.***

Definitions:

- **Extended use** refers to the practice of wearing the same PAPR hood for repeated close-contact encounters with individual or multiple patients, without removing the respirator between patient encounters.
- **Re-use** refers to the practice of removing PAPR hoods and re-using for individual and multiple patients.

When is Extended Use of PAPR Hoods Appropriate?

These instructions are for all healthcare workers providing care to multiple suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients on the following designated areas:

- Inpatient Dedicated Respiratory Care Units
- Emergency Department Respiratory Evaluation Centers
- Urgent Care and Primary Care Clinics evaluating large volume of respiratory patients
- Designated testing sites (includes clinic sub-stations and drive-up testing sites)

Instructions for Extended Use and Reuse:

1. Don PPE according to existing instructions.
2. After patient encounter, follow existing doffing procedures UNLESS you are immediately returning to patient room or entering another patient room. In those cases, leave PAPR hood in place.
3. Perform hand hygiene.
4. Do not touch PAPR hood. If PAPR hood is accidentally touched, perform hand hygiene with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
5. If immediately going to the next patient encounter, don new gown, gloves and shoe covers (if applicable). Otherwise, follow the instructions below.

PAPR Hood Conservation and Disinfection Process (This applies to any PAPR head cover/hood including shrouded PAPR hoods.)

1. Doff gown, gloves, and shoe covers (if applicable) per DUHS PPE doffing instructions.
2. Perform hand hygiene and don pair of gloves.
3. While PAPR unit is still turned ON, use an EPA registered/hospital-approved disinfectant approved against SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19)* to clean the front, top, sides and back of the PAPR hood. Discard wipe(s).
4. Lean forward slightly and remove PAPR hood by grabbing from top, tipping forward and pulling away from face. Take care not to touch your skin with the hose or hood.
5. While PAPR hood is connected, disinfect hood thoroughly with another disinfectant wipe, specifically in areas hard to reach during the first wipe down (e.g., where the hose connects to the hood, back of shrouded hood at bottom).
6. Disconnect hood from hose and place it in designated plastic bag (e.g., patient belonging bag) labeled with your full name.
7. Turn off PAPR unit.
8. While gloves are still on, perform hand hygiene using hospital approved hand sanitizer.
9. Unbuckle PAPR unit from waist.
10. Use another disinfectant wipe to disinfect the outside of the PAPR unit and hose thoroughly.
11. Remove gloves using proper technique.
12. Perform hand hygiene.
13. Store PAPR unit in designated area. Place on charger.

NOTE: After PAPR hood is disinfected and stored in the plastic bag, the bag should be stored in a designated location. An individual may continue to re-use the PAPR hood to care for subsequent patients over multiple shifts unless the hood integrity becomes compromised. Each user should inspect the integrity of their PAPR hood prior to donning each time.

*An alternative to Oxivir TB may be used as long as it is an EPA registered/hospital-approved disinfectant active against SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19). Please contact OESO or Infection Prevention for questions.

Note: Healthcare workers obtaining samples at drive-up testing sites may change gloves and perform hand hygiene ONLY between patient encounters and should keep on the other required PPE.