

## PPE Doffing Procedure: Inpatient and ED (No anteroom / disinfectant not available in room at threshold)

*This document provides instruction for safely removing PPE in environments where there is no anteroom or where gloves and/or disinfectant wipes are not available in room at the threshold.*

### Room exit procedure for both N95 and PAPR users:

1. While still in patient room, as near to the exit as possible, take off shoe covers by holding the cuff of the shoe cover and carefully dispose of them into the nearby receptacle/bag.
2. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene. Don new gloves.
3. Remove gown:
  - a. **For a break-away disposable gown:** Touching at the shoulder away from face, roll the gown inside out and dispose of the gown and gloves in designated receptacle/bags.
  - b. **For a tied/snapped reusable/disposable gown that does not easily break away:** While paying attention to the positioning of your wrists and forearms so as not to contaminate yourself, carefully reach behind and untie/unsnap gown neck first and then waist. Then, touching at the shoulder away from face, roll the gown inside out and dispose of the gown and gloves in designated receptacle/bags.
4. **If disinfectant wipe is available in room at threshold:**
  - a. Perform hand hygiene and don new/clean gloves.
  - b. Use hospital-approved disinfectant wipe to open the door, exit the space, and close the door behind you with the same disinfectant wipe.
  - c. Immediately dispose of the disinfectant wipe and doff gloves into the nearest receptacle/bag.
  - d. Perform hand hygiene and don new/clean gloves.**If NO disinfectant wipe is available in room at threshold:**
  - a. Use gloved hand to open the door, exit the space, and close the door behind you.
  - b. Immediately doff gloves into the nearest trash receptacle/bag.
  - c. Perform hand hygiene and don new/clean gloves.
  - d. Use hospital-approved disinfectant wipe to disinfect outer door handle. Immediately dispose of the disinfectant wipe and doff gloves into the nearest receptacle/bag.
  - e. Perform hand hygiene and don new/clean gloves.

### Next steps if using N95 respirator:

5. Slightly leaning forward, remove face shield using two hands, touching only the elastic band behind the ears.
6. If face shield can be reused per DUHS “N95 Respirators and Face Shields: Instructions for Extended Use and Re-use”:
  - a. Hold the foam side of face shield away from face. Using hospital-approved disinfectant wipe, start by wiping the inside of the face shield and along the foam piece. Wipe in a downward motion away from you.
  - b. Use the same wipe to clean the outer surface. Continue holding the foam piece and bend it slightly to create a strong cleaning surface. Wipe both sides in a downward motion away from you.
  - c. Discard wipe. (If face shield is cloudy after the disinfectant has dried, wipe it with a damp paper towel and dry it with a fresh paper towel.)
  - d. Place the face shield in the designated storage space (e.g., paper or plastic bag).

7. While gloves are still on, perform hand hygiene using hospital-approved hand sanitizer.
8. Remove N95 respirator by handling **bottom strap first** and then the top strap behind the ears.
9. If N95 respirator can be reused per DUHS “N95 Respirators and Face Shields: Instructions for Extended Use and Re-use,” place directly in labeled paper bag.

**Next steps if using PAPR – leave on and running:**

5. While PAPR unit is still turned ON, use hospital-approved disinfectant wipe to clean the front, top, sides, and back of the PAPR hood. Discard wipe.
6. Lean forward slightly and remove PAPR hood by grabbing from top, tipping it forward, and pulling it away from your face.
7. While the 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).
8. Disconnect hood from hose and place hood in designated plastic bag (e.g., patient belonging bag) labeled with your full name.
9. Turn off PAPR unit and 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 pinching technique.
12. Perform hand hygiene.
13. Store PAPR unit in designated area and place on charger.

**References**

DUHS PAPR Hoods: Instructions for Extended Use, Re-Use and Disinfection (updated 3/29/2020)

DUHS N95 Respirators and Face Shields: Instructions for Extended Use and Re-use (updated 8/27/2021)

DUHS Inpatient/ED: How to Don and Doff PPE (poster, updated 8/27/2021)