Steps to take off personal protective equipment (PPE) including coverall

1 Always remove PPE under the guidance and supervision of a trained observer (colleague). Ensure that infectious waste containers are available in the doffing area for safe disposal of PPE. Separate containers should be available for reusable items.

2 Perform hand hygiene

on gloved hands.¹

- 3 Remove apron leaning forward and taking care to avoid contaminating your hands. When removing disposable apron, tear it off at the neck and roll it down without touching the front area. Then untie the back and roll the apron forward.
- 4 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.

5 Remove head and neck covering taking care to avoid contaminating your face by starting from the bottom of the hood in the back and rolling from back to front and from inside to outside, and dispose of it safely.



6 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.

Ideally, in front of a mirror, tilt head back to reach zipper, unzip completely without touching any skin or scrubs, and start removing coverall from top to bottom. After freeing shoulders, remove the outer gloves² while pulling the arms out of the sleeves.

7 Remove coverall and outer pair of gloves:

With inner gloves roll the coverall, from the waist down and from the inside of the coverall, down to the top of the boots. Use one boot to pull off coverall from other boot and vice versa, then step away from the coverall and dispose of it safely.

- 8 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.
- **9** Remove eye protection by pulling the string from behind the head and dispose of it safely.



10 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.



11 Remove the mask from behind the head by first untying the bottom string above the head and leaving it hanging in front; and then the top string next from behind head and dispose of it safely.



12 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.

15 Remove gloves carefully with appropriate technique and dispose of them safely.



13 Remove rubber boots without touching them (or overshoes if wearing shoes). If the same boots are to be used outside of the high-risk zone, keep them on but clean and decontaminate appropriately before leaving the doffing area.³

14 Perform hand hygiene on gloved hands.

1 While working in the patient care area, outer gloves should be changed between patients and prior to exiting (change after seeing the last patient)

2 This technique requires properly fitted gloves. When outer gloves are too tight or inner gloves are too loose and/or hands are sweaty, the outer gloves may need to be removed separately, after removing the apron.

3 Appropriate decontamination of boots includes stepping into a footbath with 0.5% chlorine solution (and removing dirt with toilet brush if heavily soiled with mud and/or organic materials) and then wiping all sides with 0.5% chlorine solution. At least once a day boots should be disinfected by soaking in a 0.5% chlorine solution for 30 min, then rinsed and dried.

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