

IPC Bulletin for GP Practice staff

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Donning and doffing stations for personal protective equipment

The donning and doffing stations should be separate to avoid contamination of clean PPE. Risk assessments should be made prior to siting the stations.

Donning station

The 'donning station' must be situated appropriately to ensure ease of access to PPE. The donning station must include:

- Alcohol handrub
- Supply of aprons
- Clinical waste bags (yellow and black, orange)
- Eye protection - goggles/visors
- Fluid resistant surgical masks (FRSM)
- Foot operated pedal bin with appropriate waste bag inside
- Supply of gloves (all sizes)
- Alcohol wipes (at least 70% alcohol)
- Step-by-step guide on how to put on personal protective equipment, laminated and displayed

Doffing station

The 'doffing station' should be 2 metres away from the patient:

- Foot operated bin with the correct waste bag inside
- Step-by-step guide on how to remove personal protective equipment, laminated and displayed
- Sink to wash hands or alcohol handrub to clean hands between removing every item of PPE, e.g. pair of gloves, apron
- FRSM remains in place (unless soiled)

Key points to remember to stay safe:

- **Never** double glove
- 2 metres social distancing (except when providing direct care while wearing correct PPE)
- Regular hand hygiene - 20 seconds minimum
- BBE (Bare Below the Elbows)
- Clean hands after removing each item of PPE
- Enhance cleaning of high touch areas (door handles, telephones, light switches, etc)
- Wash uniforms daily and separately from the family wash at 60 degrees, unless the garment label states otherwise
- Respiratory and cough hygiene - Catch it, Bin it, Kill it

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