

Personal Protective Equipment



Protective Gloves

When this symbol is indicated, you should wear protective gloves. Gloves are an integral part of personal safety. They prevent contamination of healthcare professionals' hands and help reduce the spread of pathogens when used properly. There are many different types of protective gloves, make sure you are choosing the appropriate pair for the task you are conducting – the fit, material, grip and cuff length should be considered. In addition to this, ensure hand hygiene is performed before and after wear.

Protective Lab Coat

When this symbol is indicated, you should wear a protective lab coat. This adds an additional layer of protection for your body against hazardous material, additionally protecting areas which are not already covered by clothing. The material should be appropriate for the task at hand, with the correct length and sizing to ensure proper protection.



Protective Glasses

When this symbol is indicated, you should wear protective glasses. This will protect your eyes from spills and splashes and are required to be worn at all times in an area where the symbol is displayed. Common areas include chemical, biological and radiological labs. It must be noted that regular glasses are not classified as “safety glasses”; where prescription glasses are required for eyesight, safety glasses must be worn over the prescription glasses.

Protective Surgical Mask or Respirator

When this symbol is indicated, you should wear either a protective surgical mask or medical respirator. Surgical masks are mainly designed for both patient and caregiver protection. They protect against splashes, sprays, or splatter that contains germs e.g: airborne pathogens. The medical respirator selected will depend on the degree of protection required against the pathogens or chemicals you are being exposed to.

