

Isolation Gowns

Wearing an isolation gown is required when providing care for a resident with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. This helps prevent the transfer of germs and microorganisms.

Selecting Gowns

When selecting isolation gowns, select gowns for use that provide barrier protection from fluids such as blood, body fluids, or germs. Choose gowns that:

- Provides a fluid resistant coating that, when wet, fluids bead, run off and do not penetrate through the gown.
- Provides full coverage of the body (front and back)
- Gowns used for isolation in healthcare have at least an [ANSI/AAMI](#) (see below for additional information on ANSI/AAMI) rating of at least 1 to prevent contamination of clothing and bare skin. If there is a rating on the gowns, it is generally not necessary to have gowns rated >2.



Disposable gowns are designed to be discarded into the regular trash after a use with a single patient/resident.

Non-disposable gowns or reusable gowns must be laundered after a single use. Gown manufacturers recommend the number of times each gown may be laundered (usually 75 or 100 times). It is important that any reusable gown is discarded once it is no longer protective or fluid resistant.

Gown Use

Disposable or reusable gowns may be used. Disposable gowns should be discarded after each use. Reusable gowns should be laundered after each use and between each resident. Avoid hanging used gowns in resident rooms for reuse.

Proper Fit

Isolation gowns should be selected to provide a proper fit. The gown should have long sleeves and provide protection to the wearer's front and back and be secured at the neck and waist. Sleeves should be long enough to cover the wrists. For gowns with thumb holes, thumbs should be placed through the hole. Gloves may be pulled over the cuff to avoid skin exposure. Read the gown instructions for specific information on the fit of the gown.

Removing a Gown

A contaminated gown should be removed inside the resident's room or in a designated area just outside of the room. Gowns should not be worn in hallways or common areas.

Follow manufacturer instructions when available for donning or doffing a gown. In general, when removing a gown, reach up to the shoulders or top of the gown and pull it away from the body. As the ties release, roll the gown so that the contaminated outer surface of the gown is folded inside. Avoid touching the contaminated surface of the gown while removing it. Dispose of the contaminated gown in a covered trash container or, if reusable, into a covered laundry bin.

Figure 1

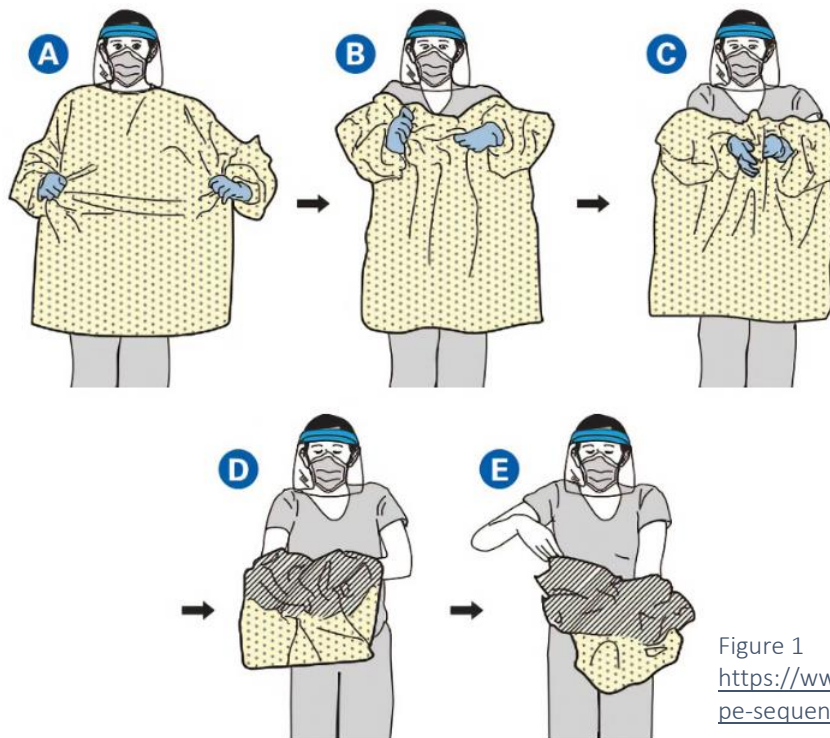


Figure 1
<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/pe-sequence.pdf>

Standards and Ratings

ANSI: The American National Standards Institute is a nonprofit group that coordinates and administers the voluntary standards established for goods sold in the US and around the globe.

AAMI: Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI) is a nonprofit organization of members from many different professions that work together to develop standards of health technology.

Resources

APIC Do's and Don'ts for Wearing Gowns in Non-surgical Healthcare Settings

https://www.iephysicians.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/APIC_DosDonts_GOWNS.pdf

CDC PPE FAQs <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirator-use-faq.html#:~:text=What%20type%20of%20gown%20is,suspected%20or%20confirmed%20COVID%2D19.>

CDC Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of Isolation Gowns
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/isolation-gowns.html>

FDA Medical Gowns
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/personal-protective-equipment-infection-control/medical-gowns>

