

PPE: The Care and Reprocessing of Eye Protection



North Central
Health Care

Person centered. Outcome focused.

If you have been instructed to wear eye protection while working at NCHC, below are the care and reprocessing how-to's advised by the CDC.

What is Reprocessing?

Reprocessing is the preparation for reuse of this PPE. Not all PPE is reusable and please consult your program manager for instructions for your specific role and area of operation.



Employees should take care not to touch their eye protection.

If you touch or adjust your eye protection you must immediately perform hand hygiene.

Reprocess or Discard?

- Eye protection should be removed and reprocessed if it becomes visibly soiled or difficult to see through.
- If a disposable face shield is reprocessed, it should be dedicated to one employee and reprocessed whenever it is visibly soiled or removed (e.g., when leaving the isolation area) prior to putting it back on.
- Eye protection should be discarded if damaged (e.g., face shield can no longer fasten securely to the provider, if visibility is obscured and reprocessing does not restore visibility).
- Store your PPE in the designated PPE storage area for your program (if applicable) inside a paper bag.



Goggles or Glasses
(Can be worn over corrective glasses)



Face Shields

How to Reprocess Eye Protection



Adhere to recommended manufacturer instructions for cleaning and disinfection. When manufacturer instructions for cleaning and disinfection are unavailable, such as for single use disposable face shields, the CDC recommends the following:

1. While wearing gloves, carefully wipe the inside, followed by the outside of the face shield or goggles using a clean cloth saturated with neutral detergent solution or cleaner wipe*.
2. Carefully wipe the outside of the face shield or goggles using a wipe or clean cloth saturated with EPA-registered hospital disinfectant solution.
3. Wipe the outside of face shield or goggles with clean water or alcohol to remove residue.
4. Fully dry (air dry or use clean absorbent towels).
5. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.

* Cleaning supplies are available in appropriate storage areas for each program. Please contact your manager to access or order additional supplies.



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