

Standard Work: Doffing Level 1 PPE

Author: Ryan A. Thatcher MSN
Revision Date: 06/05/2025

Purpose: Doffing Level 1 PPE



Outline for doffing the PPE required for ULTIMATE precautions.

Value Stream: Special Pathogen Unit (SPU)




The Corewell Health Special Pathogen Unit is located on 9C at Butterworth. All PPE outlined in this SW may not be available to team members outside of the SPU.

Introduction: The doffing process is conducted under the guidance and supervision of a Hot Zone Boss (HZB), who confirms visually that all steps of the procedure are performed successfully. The Hot Zone Boss uses verbal commands and this written checklist to verify each step in the doffing process. The person doffing will acknowledge each command given by the HZB as an indication of their understanding of the step. The HZB may assist in the doffing process, as required. If the HZB touches any potentially contaminated PPE they will immediately sanitize their outer gloves, remove them, and replace them before continuing with the doffing checklist.



If Team Member makes any error in process the HZB will use critical thinking and open communication to instruct on the best course of action. Often this will require sanitation of the team member's hands/gloves, the HZB's hands/gloves or the environment. For example, if team member steps in wrong zone while doffing either the team member or HZB will use a disinfectant mop to clean the area prior to continuing the doffing process.

Seq. No	Task Description:	Key Point / Image / Measure (What good looks like)	Who	Check
In the Red Zone/Patient Room If Red Zone not entered, team member may doff in yellow zone.				
1.	Clean patient door and floor 1) Using approved disinfectant, clean high touch surfaces including door, door handle, and walls. 2) Using Swiffer and approved disinfectant wipes, clean the floor from the door into the patient room. It is recommended that doffer clean at least 5 feet from the door.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
2a.	Sanitize patient care gloves 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your gloves to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	




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2b.	Doff patient care gloves 1) Doff using the glove-in-glove technique taking care to not get any infectious waste on inner gloves. 2) Dispose of gloves in Cat A waste bin.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
3.	Doff impervious gown 1) Cross arms over chest, grasping the gown at the anterior shoulder. 2) Pull gown away from body while uncrossing arms. 3) Roll gown inside out while pulling the gown to break the waist strap. 4) Dispose of gown in Cat A waste bin.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
4.	Doff external shoe covers 1) Slip shoehorn between shoe cover and suit. 2) Lift heel with toes still on floor. 3) Gently remove shoe cover 4) Remain in Red zone until both shoe covers are removed. 5) Open door and exit red zone. *Shoehorn stays in redzone. In room team members dispose of shoe covers. *		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	



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Doffing Team Member Transitions to Yellow Zone				
5.	HZB will assist team member in inspecting PPE for rips, tears, or contaminants on the PPE If any breach or contamination is identified (actual or potential) the Team Member will use a disinfectant wipe (Sani-Cloth or Bleach), to remove any contamination on PPE. HZB may assist if needed. If HZB touches any soiled PPE they should sanitize patient care gloves, doff patient care gloves, and don a new pair of patient care gloves before continuing the team member doffing process.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member Hot Zone Boss	
6.	Sanitize outer gloves 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your gloves to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	



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7.	Doff outer gloves 1) Doff using the glove-in-glove technique taking care to not get any infectious waste on inner gloves. 2) Dispose of gloves in Cat A waste bin.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
8.	Sanitize inner gloves 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your gloves to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
9a.	Begin doffing coveralls 1) Unzip coveralls being careful to not touch clothing under suit. 2) Grabbing the exterior of coveralls, pull off from shoulders. 3) Pull coveralls down removing arms from sleeves without touching skin or clothing with inner gloves. Keeping gloves inside coverall sleeves, pull coveralls down to knee level and sit.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	




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9b.	Finish doffing coveralls with outer shoe covers still attached <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Push coveralls down to floor, only touching the inside of the coveralls with the inside of the coverall sleeves. 2) Use the inside of the coveralls to assist in removing legs from coveralls. 3) As each foot is removed place it on the unexposed inside of the suit. 4) Once both feet are free of coveralls finish removing coverall sleeves. 5) Team member then steps from the coveralls to the green zone without stepping on flooring in the yellow zone. 		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
Doffing Team Member Transitions to Green Zone				
10.	Disposal of coveralls <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hot Zone Boss uses grabbers or triple gloved hands to dispose of coveralls in Cat A waste bin. <p>If HZB touches any soiled PPE they should sanitize patient care gloves, doff patient care gloves, and don a new pair of patient care gloves before continuing the team member doffing process.</p>		Hot Zone Boss	




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11.	Sanitize inner gloves 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your gloves to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
12.	Doff CAPR shroud 1) Complete the below steps while leaning over the green and yellow zone lines. Avoid excessive fluttering and touching of hood against body/arms. a) Untie shroud b) Grabbing the outside of the head shroud, pull up and over gently removing from the helmet. c) Grab the sides of the face shield and gently pull sides off from hood lens side mounts. d) Pull the shroud forward unsnapping the lens from the front mounting post. e) Gently place the shroud in the Cat A waste bin or on the floor in the yellow zone.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	

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13.	Disposal of CAPR shroud 1) If the shroud was placed on the floor, Hot Zone Boss uses grabbers or triple gloved hands to dispose of shroud in Cat A waste bin. If HZB touches any soiled PPE they should sanitize patient care gloves, doff patient care gloves, and don a new pair of patient care gloves before continuing the team member doffing process.		Hot Zone Boss	
14.	Sanitize inner gloves 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your gloves to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
15.	Doff inner gloves 1) Doff using the glove-in-glove technique taking care to not get any infectious waste on inner gloves. 2) Dispose of gloves in Cat A waste bin.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	

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16.	Sanitize hands 1) Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. 2) Put enough sanitizer on your hands to cover all surfaces. 3) Do not wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry. This should take around 20 seconds.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
17.	Remove CAPR helmet and belt Team Member will remove CAPR helmet and belt with battery pack attached. Removed helmet, battery pack, and belt will be placed in a bin in the green zone for decontamination by a team member wearing gloves.		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	
18.	Perform hand hygiene		Special Pathogen Response Team Member	