

Selection of Personal Protective Equipment

Ebola Viral Disease (EVD)

In addition to Routine Practices, **initiate Contact and Droplet Precautions** immediately for any suspect or confirmed case of EVD.

Point of care Risk assessment

Health care providers (HCPs) must conduct a risk assessment with each patient to evaluate their potential exposure to blood and/or body fluids. This should be used to determine the need for additional PPE. The need for additional PPE such as the use of double gloves, foot/leg coverings, head coverings, waterproof gowns or specific biohazard suits depends on the potential for fluid contact as determined by the procedure being performed and the presence of clinical symptoms that increase the likelihood of contact with body fluids. As the patient's condition changes, the risk to HCPs may also change.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE used for the patient interaction, should be based on the Point of Care Risk Assessment (see above). **Extra care should be taken when removing PPE** to avoid any contact between soiled items (e.g. gowns and gloves) and any area of the face, skin, or clothing. Hands must be cleaned before contact with the face. If there is any doubt, clean hands again to ensure mucous membranes (eyes, nose, and mouth) are not contaminated. PPE should be removed at the doorway upon exiting the room and discarded in the biohazard waste container in the patient room.

**Exception:* N-95 Facemask removed and discarded in anteroom.

A second HCP must observe the application and removal of PPE to ensure that inadvertent contamination of eyes, mucous membranes, skin or clothing does not occur. If unfamiliar PPE is being worn, just in time refresher training is recommended prior to application and during removal until the HCP is comfortable with the PPE.

The following table has been developed to assist you in the selection of appropriate PPE based on your Point of Care Risk Assessment. Select the appropriate PPE to minimize your risk of exposure to an infectious agent from blood and/or body fluids.

| | Suspect or Confirmed Case EVD | Suspect or Confirmed Case EVD: Exposure to copious drainage of blood &/or Body Fluids | Suspect or Confirmed Case EVD: Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGMP) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Additional Precautions | <i>Droplet and Contact Precautions for EVD</i> | <i>Droplet and Contact Precautions With Additional PPE for EVD</i> | <i>Droplet and Contact Precautions with Additional PPE for EVD</i> |
| Based on PCRA of Exposure to Blood and/or Body Fluids | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Early stages EVD when patient minimally symptomatic i.e. Without diarrhea and vomiting or patients body fluids are contained ▫ convalescing stage of EVD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Progressing and later stages of EVD when patient experiences significant vomiting, diarrhea, hemorrhagic symptoms i.e. With copious amounts of body fluids | Examples of AGMP's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Intubation ▫ Bronchoscopy ▫ Sputum Induction ▫ open suctioning of airways |
| PPE for any contact with patient/ patient environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Impermeable Gown ▫ Surgical Facemask ▫ Extended Cuff Nitrile Gloves ▫ Face Shield ▫ Head/Neck Cover | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Impermeable Gown ▫ Surgical Facemask ▫ Double Gloves: Extended Cuff Nitrile Gloves ▫ Face Shield ▫ Impermeable Head/Neck Cover ▫ Impermeable Boot Covers ▫ Optional impermeable Apron | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ PPE same as same as EVD with exposure to copious amounts of secretions/excretions EXCEPT ▫ N-95 Surgical Respirator instead of Facemask Mask ▫ Perform in Negative Pressure Room |

If any item of PPE becomes compromised, the HCW must change the affected item [i.e. gloves or apron].

*Footwear as per hospital [Dress Code Policy CH 08-095](#)

Links to Additional information:

- **Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)**
 - [Information for Health Care Workers](#)
 - [Up-to-date Travel Advisories](#)
- **Centre for Disease Control**
 - [Information for Health Care Workers](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
 - [Rapid Advance Guideline: PPE in the Context of Filovirus Disease Outbreak response](#)
 - [IPAC Guidelines for EVD](#)

References

- World Health Organization (WHO). Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Care of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Filovirus Haemorrhagic Fever WHO Guidelines: in Health-Care Settings, with Focus on Ebola (August 2014)
<http://www.who.int/csr/resources/who-ipc-guidance-ebolafinal-09082014.pdf>
- Ebola Virus Disease: Infection Prevention and Control Measures for Healthcare Settings in Nova Scotia Interim Guidance (October 24, 2014) Retrieved from: <http://novascotia.ca/dhw/cdpc/documents/Ebola-Virus-Disease-Infection-Prevention-and-Control-Guidelines.pdf>
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http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/EVD_IPAC_Guidance.pdf
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