HealthStream Regulatory Script

Personal Protective Equipment
Release Date: August 2008
HLC Version: 602

Lesson 1: Introduction
Lesson 2: PPE Basics
Lesson 3: Use of PPE in Healthcare
Lesson 4: Gloves
Lesson 5: Face and Eye Protection
Lesson 6: Protective Apparel
Welcome to the introductory lesson on personal protective equipment (PPE).

As your partner, HealthStream strives to provide its customers with excellence in regulatory learning solutions. As new guidelines are continually issued by regulatory agencies, we work to update courses, as needed, in a timely manner. Since responsibility for complying with new guidelines remains with your organization, HealthStream encourages you to routinely check all relevant regulatory agencies directly for the latest updates for clinical/organizational guidelines.

If you have concerns about any aspect of the safety or quality of patient care in your organization, be aware that you may report these concerns directly to The Joint Commission.
Course Rationale

In the healthcare setting, there are many biological hazards. This course will teach you how to protect yourself from these hazards by using PPE.

You will learn about:
- The types of PPE used in the healthcare setting
- How to choose the right PPE for the job
- How to use PPE correctly and safely
## Course Goals

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- Recognize when and why [OSHA glossary](#) requires an employer to provide PPE for employees
- Recognize when and how PPE should be used in the healthcare setting
- List best practices for the use of gloves
- Identify how and when to use masks, goggles, and respirators
- Recognize when and how protective apparel should be used
# Course Outline

This introductory lesson gives the course rationale, goals, and outline.

Lesson 2 covers the basics of PPE. This includes your employer’s duty to provide you with PPE.

Lesson 3 discusses the use of PPE in the healthcare setting. This includes when and how PPE should be used.

Lesson 4 gives more details about when and how to use gloves as PPE in healthcare.

Lesson 5 gives similar details about the use of masks and protective eyewear.

Finally, lesson 6 gives details about using protective apparel.

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  - Goggles |
| Lesson 6: Protective Apparel |
  - Gowns
  - Aprons
  - Lab coats
  - Other protective apparel |
## Introduction & Objectives

Welcome to the lesson on PPE basics.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
- Recognize the role of OSHA in protecting employees from workplace hazards
- Distinguish between engineering controls and work practice controls
- Identify when an employer must provide PPE for workers

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Hazard are present in many work environments.

In the healthcare setting, examples of hazards are:
- Biological hazards, such as infectious materials
- Chemical hazards, such as cleaning and disinfecting supplies
- Other hazards

OSHA is the government agency that works to protect employees from job hazards.
### Work Practice Controls & Engineering Controls

When a workplace hazard is present, OSHA requires the employer to put safeguards in place.

These safeguards include:
- **Engineering controls**
- **Work practice controls**

Click on each to learn more.

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**Engineering controls**

An engineering control is a device or mechanism with built-in features that remove a hazard from the work environment. An example of an engineering control is a sharps disposal container. These containers isolate contaminated sharps away from workers.

**Work practice controls**

A work practice control is a way of doing your job that reduces your risk of being exposed to a hazard. An example of a work practice control is **NOT recapping needles**. This reduces the risk of needle-sticks that could expose healthcare workers to bloodborne pathogens.
Personal Protective Equipment

Sometimes, engineering controls and work practice controls are not enough to fully protect workers.

In this case, the employer must provide employees with personal protective equipment (PPE).

Different types of PPE provide different protection. For example, in the healthcare setting:

- Gloves protect the worker from skin contact with hazardous materials.
- Surgical masks protect the worker from mucous membrane contact with hazardous materials.
- Respirators protect the worker from inhaling hazardous materials.
When there is a hazard in the workplace, employers must protect their employees by providing:
   a. Engineering controls
   b. Work practice controls
   c. Personal protective equipment
   d. All of the above, as necessary
   e. None of the above

MULTIPLE CHOICE INTERACTION

Correct: D

A: Not quite. The best answer is D. Employers must provide engineering and work practice controls to safeguard their employees. If these controls do not fully protect workers, employers must also provide PPE.

B: Not quite. The best answer is D. Employers must provide engineering and work practice controls to safeguard their employees. If these controls do not fully protect workers, employers must also provide PPE.

C: Not quite. The best answer is D. Employers must provide engineering and work practice controls to safeguard their employees. If these controls do not fully protect workers, employers must also provide PPE.

D: Correct. Employers must provide engineering and work practice controls to safeguard their employees. If these controls do not fully protect workers, employers must also provide PPE.

E: Incorrect. The best answer is D. Employers must provide engineering and work practice controls to safeguard their employees. If these controls do not fully protect workers, employers must also provide PPE.
<table>
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</table>

You have completed the lesson on basics of PPE.

Remember:
- OSHA requires employers to safeguard their employees.
- When there is a workplace hazard, the employer must provide engineering controls and work practice controls.
- When engineering and work practice controls do not fully protect the employee, the employer must provide PPE as well.
### Introduction & Objectives

Welcome to the lesson on use of PPE in the healthcare setting.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
- Recognize why PPE is used in the healthcare setting
- List situations in which PPE should be used
- Identify factors that influence choice of PPE
- List employer responsibilities for PPE, including which items are considered PPE
- Recognize what to do when PPE is removed after use or due to soiling

### FLASH ANIMATION

Lesson 3: Use of PPE in Healthcare
- When to use PPE
- How much PPE to use
- Employer responsibilities
Use of PPE in Healthcare

Remember: the healthcare setting can expose workers to many hazards.

In this course, we will focus on biological hazards.

These are agents that can cause disease, such as bacteria and viruses. These agents may be found:
- In a patient’s blood or other body fluids
- In a patient’s respiratory secretions
- On environmental surfaces
- In the air

PPE helps protect you from contact with these materials or items.
## When Must PPE BE Used?

You must use PPE whenever you are at risk for exposure to an infectious agent.

You are at risk when you have contact with:

- **Any patient, regardless of diagnosis**
- **A patient with a contact-transmitted disease**
- **A patient with a droplet-transmitted disease**
- **A patient with an airborne disease**

Click on each category to learn more.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **All patients** | At all times, you should assume that all patients might have a bloodborne disease, such as AIDS. This assumption is the basis for Standard Precautions. Standard Precautions are the CDC’s policies and procedures for preventing spread of bloodborne diseases in the healthcare setting. According to Standard Precautions, you **must** wear appropriate PPE (gloves, mask, gown, etc.) whenever you might have contact with ANY patient’s blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM). Note:  
  - OPIM includes semen, vaginal secretions, and other materials. See the glossary for a complete list of OPIM.  
  - “Contact” means direct contact with blood and OPIM. It also includes times when there is a risk of a blood splatter or splash, such as during surgery. |
| **Patients with contact-transmitted disease** | Contact-transmitted diseases are spread by direct or indirect contact with an infected patient. An example of a contact disease is scabies. When you are caring for a patient with a contact-transmitted disease, you must use PPE as outlined in the CDC’s Contact Precautions. For example, you must wear gloves and a gown whenever you enter the patient’s room. This protects your hands from exposure to infectious agents on the patient or on items or surfaces in the patient’s room. |
| **Patients with droplet-transmitted disease** | Droplet-transmitted diseases are spread by respiratory droplets. These are small droplets (>5 microns) released when a patient breathes, talks, or coughs. An example of a droplet disease is influenza. When you are caring for a patient with a droplet-transmitted disease, you must use PPE as outlined in the CDC’s Droplet Precautions. For example, you must wear a gown and mask whenever you enter the patient’s room. This prevents the patient’s respiratory droplets from making contact with your eyes, nose, or mouth. |
| **Patients with airborne disease** | Airborne diseases are spread by tiny (<5 microns) respiratory particles that can travel long distances through the air. An example of this kind of disease is tuberculosis. When you are caring for a patient with an airborne disease, you must use PPE as outlined in the CDC’s Airborne Precautions. For example, you must wear a certified personal respirator whenever you enter the patient’s room. This protects you from inhaling infectious airborne particles. |
How Much PPE Do You Need?

In some cases, the likely amount of exposure will help determine the type and amount of PPE you will need.

Click for examples in:
- **Contact Precautions**
- **Standard Precautions**

Your employer should have policies and procedures in place to help you decide how much PPE to use for each task.

**Contact Precautions**
When a patient is on Contact Precautions, you must wear gloves and a gown each time you enter the patient’s room.

**Standard Precautions**
Under Standard Precautions, you must wear PPE whenever you are at risk for exposure to patient blood or OPIM. The amount and type of PPE depends on the likely amount of exposure. For example, you must wear gloves to draw blood. You should wear gloves, a mask, goggles, and a gown when assisting with surgery.
### Employer Responsibilities

Your facility must provide you with necessary PPE. This should be at no cost to you.

Your facility also is responsible for ensuring that:
- PPE is cleaned, maintained, repaired, replaced, and/or disposed of properly.
- You have ready access to the PPE you need.
- PPE is available in sizes that meet your needs.
- Alternative “hypoallergenic” items are available for staff who are allergic to the standard products.
- Staff receive training on how to choose and use PPE. Staff should be trained when they are hired. They also should have annual refresher training.

![Image: 3005.jpg](image)
Employer Responsibilities: Which Items?

Remember: your facility has certain responsibilities for PPE.

This raises the question: which items are PPE?

For example, gloves are certainly PPE. But what about:

- Uniforms?
- Scrubs?
- Lab coats?

If these items are meant to be used as PPE in the work setting, they are PPE.

This means:

- The employer must provide, launder, repair, replace, and/or dispose of these items.
- Employees may NOT launder these items.
On the other hand, if employees launder their own scrubs, uniforms, or lab coats, these items may **not** be used as PPE.

This means:
- The employer must **provide** PPE to be worn over these garments.
- Employees must **wear** PPE over these garments whenever they are at risk for exposure.
When PPE Becomes Soiled

While you are working, PPE may become:
- Soiled
- Torn
- Damaged

When this happens:
- Remove the PPE as soon as possible.
- Wash the affected area with soap and water (as appropriate).
- Replace the PPE.

If you think you might have been exposed to infectious materials when the PPE was soiled, report to your supervisor immediately.
Removing PPE After Use

Remember: Remove damaged or soiled PPE as soon as possible.

Before leaving the work area, remove **all** PPE. This is true whether or not the PPE is visibly soiled.

Prolonged use of PPE could lead to contamination of the work environment. This could expose coworkers, visitors, or patients to infection.

After carefully removing used PPE, place it in the proper bin for disposal or cleaning.

Follow your facility’s policies to choose the right bin for each type of PPE.
Choose the true statement(s):

a. If PPE is not visibly soiled, it may be worn home.
b. Healthcare workers may launder their own PPE if they wish.
c. Soiled or damaged PPE must be removed as soon as possible.
d. Employees must clean, maintain, repair, and replace their own PPE.
e. All of the above

Multiple Choice Interaction

[CORRECT ANSWER: C]

A: Incorrect. The correct answer is C.
B: Incorrect. The correct answer is C.
C: Correct.
D: Incorrect. The correct answer is C.
E: Incorrect. The correct answer is C.
Summary

You have completed the lesson on use of PPE in healthcare.

Remember:

- Healthcare workers must use PPE when they are at risk for exposure to an infectious agent.
- The type of infectious agent helps determine the type of PPE.
- In some cases, the likely amount of exposure also will help determine the type and amount of PPE.
- Your facility must provide and maintain PPE.
- If an item is used as PPE, your facility must dispose of or launder it. Items that you take home and launder yourself may not be used as PPE.
- Visibly soiled or damaged PPE should be removed as soon as possible. All PPE should be removed before leaving the work area.
LESSON 4: GLOVES
4001

Gloves

Welcome to the lesson on gloves.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify when gloves should be worn
- List types of gloves used in healthcare
- Recognize what to do if you have a sensitivity reaction to latex gloves
- Identify best practices for gloves use

FLASH ANIMATION

Lesson 4: Gloves
- When to use gloves
- Types of gloves
- Glove best practices
**When to Use Gloves**

To protect against spread of infection, gloves must be used as PPE:
- When you may have exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM)
- When you are working with a patient on Contact Precautions

**FLASH ANIMATION**

![Gloves being put on](image1)

![Gloves being put on](image2)

![Gloves being put on](image3)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gloves as PPE</th>
<th>CLICK TO REVEAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Several types of gloves are available for use as PPE in the healthcare settings. | **Powdered latex**  
Powdered latex gloves are available as sterile or non-sterile. They are generally powdered with cornstarch to make them easier to put on. These gloves are no longer recommended, because of the powder. Powder increases the risk of sensitization to latex. |
| The most common types are:  
- Powdered latex gloves  
- Powder-free latex gloves  
- Polymer exam gloves  
- Nitrile gloves  
- Vinyl gloves  
- Utility gloves | **Powder-free latex gloves**  
These gloves also are available as sterile or non-sterile. They are less likely to cause a latex reaction than are powdered latex gloves. Therefore, you may see these gloves labeled “hypoallergenic.” However, these gloves still contain latex. Never assume that a glove is latex-free unless it specifically states “latex-free.” Hypoallergenic does not necessarily mean latex-free.  

**Polymer exam gloves**  
These gloves also come in sterile and non-sterile forms. They are made of powder-free latex, with a double polymer coating. The coating is meant to reduce the likelihood of direct contact with the latex, to reduce the risk of a reaction.  

**Nitrile gloves**  
These gloves also may be sterile or non-sterile. Nitrile is a synthetic, hypoallergenic material. Nitrile gloves are thicker than latex gloves, making them more resistant to puncture and chemicals. They may be used in emergency situations or in situations with a high exposure risk.  

**Vinyl gloves**  
These gloves are typically non-sterile. They are an alternative to latex for latex-sensitive healthcare workers and patients.  

**Utility gloves**  
These gloves are not used for patient care. They are heavy and reusable. They are also known as household gloves. |
| Click on each type of glove to learn more. |
Latex Sensitivity/Allergy

Remember: Latex gloves carry a risk of causing a reaction.

Symptoms of an allergic reaction to latex are:
- Itching
- Sneezing
- Flushing
- Coughing
- Tightness in the throat
- Breathing problems
- Nasal, eye, or sinus symptoms
- Hives, rash, or sores where skin is in contact with latex

In more severe cases, employees exposed to latex can have life-threatening reactions.
### Latex Sensitivity/Allergy

If you have any symptoms of a reaction when using latex products or supplies, report these symptoms to your supervisor.

You should receive proper evaluation and treatment.

Latex-free gloves and other PPE should be made available for your use.

Remember: Never assume that a glove is latex-free unless it specifically states “latex-free.” Hypoallergenic does not necessarily mean latex-free.

In extreme cases, personnel may require job reassignment to avoid further exposure to latex materials.

**IMAGE: 4005.JPG**

Latex proteins bind to the powder used in glove manufacturing. This powder can be released into the air when gloves are put on or removed.

Simply switching to powder-free gloves can correct latex sensitivity in some individuals.
Glove Best Practices: When to Use

Follow these best practices for glove use:

- Wear gloves when you may have contact with blood or OPIM
- Wear gloves when you may have contact with contaminated items or surfaces
- Wear gloves when you enter the room of a patient on Contact Precautions
Also follow these best practices:
• Wear the right size. Gloves too large or too small can increase the risk of injury or exposure.
• Do not wear gloves over rings or other jewelry. Keep fingernails clipped short. They should be no longer than ¼ inch long. Do not wear artificial nails.
• Use sterile gloves for invasive procedures.
• Use non-sterile exam gloves for non-invasive procedures.
• Replace soiled or damaged gloves as soon as possible.
• Always wash your hands after taking off gloves. Wash hands before putting on a new pair of gloves.
• Always change gloves between patients.
• Do not wash or reuse disposable gloves.
Glove Reminders

Keep in mind:
- Gloves protect the hands from exposure. However, neither vinyl nor latex gloves are completely impermeable.
- Gloves are generally not necessary for contact with intact skin. However, this depends on the patient’s diagnosis.
- Double-gloving may be appropriate for certain procedures, such as suturing.
- Reusable utility gloves may be washed and reused. However, they must be discarded when stained or damaged.
- If gloves are not used correctly, they can help spread infection, instead of preventing the spread of infection.

*Use gloves correctly to protect yourself, your patients, and your coworkers.*
Flash Interaction: 4009.SWF

Drag and drop the terms in the list on the right to complete the sentences on the left.

Latex (proteins) bind to the (powder) used in glove manufacturing.

Nitrile gloves are more resistant to (puncture) than are latex gloves.

Hands should be (washed) before and after glove use.

Gloves too (large) or too (small) can increase risk of injury or exposure.

Word list:
proteins
powder
puncture
washed
large
small
You have completed the lesson on gloves.

Remember:
- There are several types of gloves used in healthcare. The appropriate glove should be chosen for each task.
- If you are allergic to latex, your facility should provide you with latex-free gloves and other PPE.
- Follow best practices for glove use. This will help you protect yourself and others from exposure to infection.
Welcome to the lesson on face and eye protection.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
- Recognize when to use a surgical mask
- List best practices for surgical mask use
- Recognize when and how to use a personal respirator
- Recognize when to use goggles or a face shield

FLASH ANIMATION

Lesson 5: Face and Eye Protection
- Surgical masks
- Respirators
- Goggles
When to Use Face and Eye Protection

PPE to protect the mouth, nose, and/or eyes from exposure should be used when:
- You may be exposed to splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM
- You are working with a patient on Droplet Precautions
- You enter the room of a patient on Airborne Precautions

Let’s take a closer look at each of these situations on the following screens.
When there may be splashes or splatters of blood or OPIM, healthcare personnel should wear one of the following:

- A surgical mask plus goggles with side shields
- A face shield that completely covers the face

When working closely with a patient on Droplet Precautions, staff should wear a surgical or procedure mask.
Surgical masks come in several different styles. These include:
- Folded
- Domed
- Duck-billed

Masks are held to the face by ties or elastic bands that hook over the ears.

Make sure you know how to use the mask(s) available to you.
When using a mask:
- The mask should fit securely. It should cover the mouth AND nose to prevent exposure.
- Do not touch the outside of the mask.
- If the mask becomes soiled or wet after prolonged use, remove it. Wash your hands. Put on a new mask.
- Completely remove the mask and discard properly after use. Do not pull the mask off and let it hang around your neck.
N95 Respirators

A surgical mask protects against droplet transmission. However, a surgical mask will NOT protect against airborne transmission. Airborne particles are small enough to pass through a mask.

To protect against airborne transmission, a certified personal respirator must be used.

A commonly used respirator is the N95 respirator. One type of N95 respirator is shown here.
N95 Respirators

An N95 respirator or other respirator should be used every time you enter the room of a patient on Airborne Precautions. This includes patients with:
- Tuberculosis
- Measles
- Chickenpox or shingles

Note: Immune personnel do not need to use a respirator when working with patients with measles or chickenpox/shingles.

The CDC also recommends use of a N95 respirator at minimum when working with patients with:
- SARS
- Avian flu
- Pandemic influenza
- Seasonal influenza A

FLASH ANIMATION

The CDC and OSHA suggest using powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) for aerosol generating procedures such as:
- High flow oxygen delivery
- Bronchoscopy
- Airway suctioning
- Endotracheal intubation and extubation

The PAPR:
- Is not disposable
- Has a full hood or enclosed face cover system
- Provides a higher level of respiratory protection than the N95 respirator
Fit Testing

You may not use an N95 respirator until you have been fit-tested.

First, you will need to answer questions about your respiratory status and smoking habits. Some employees will not be able to wear a respirator because of medical conditions.

You will then need to try on an N95 respirator. Its fit will be tested in one of two ways:

- One type of test relies on your feedback about how the mask feels and works.
- The other type of test measures the number of particles able to leak past the mask into your breathing space.
When to Wear Goggles

Remember: Goggles should be worn (with a surgical mask) during procedures that could cause splashes or splatters of blood or OPIM. This includes during:

- Oral suctioning
- Irrigating a wound
- Cleaning and disinfecting instruments

Goggles must have side shields.

As an alternative to goggles plus a mask, a full face shield may be used.
Goggles vs. Prescription Glasses

Regular prescription glasses are NOT goggles.

Check with your supervisor if you wish to purchase prescription eyewear with side shields for full eye protection. Your facility may cover this cost.
Choose the true statement(s):

- a. N95 respirators protect against exposure to airborne disease.
- b. Surgical masks and N95 respirators can be used interchangeably.
- c. Surgical masks protect against exposure to blood and respiratory droplets.
- d. Both A and C
- e. All of the above

**Multiple Choice Interaction**

Correct: D

A: Not quite. The best answer is D.
B: Incorrect. The correct answer is D.
C: Not quite. The correct answer is D.
D: Correct.
E: Incorrect. The correct answer is D.
You have completed the lesson on face and eye protection.

Remember:
- Wear a surgical mask and goggles if you could be exposed to splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM. Goggles must have side shields.
- Wear a surgical mask when working with a patient on Droplet Precautions.
- Follow best practices for correct mask use.
- Use an N95 respirator when working with a patient with an airborne disease. A surgical mask does NOT provide protection in this case.
- Fit-testing is required before you may use a respirator.
Welcome to the lesson on protective apparel.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
- Recognize when and how to use a gown
- Identity when a lab coat is and is not PPE
- List other items of protective apparel that may be required in the surgical setting
- Recognize the types of PPE available for resuscitation

**FLASH ANIMATION**

Lesson 6: Protective Apparel
- Gowns
- Aprons
- Lab coats

Other protective apparel
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<td>You must use a gown as PPE:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• When there is a risk of splashes or spills of infectious materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• When you enter the room of a patient on Contact or Droplet Precautions</td>
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</table>

[IMAGE: 6002.JPG]
Gowns

To protect against splatters and spills, you may need to wear a gown in:

- Emergency rooms
- Surgical areas
- Laboratories
- Delivery suites

The type of gown used in each work area must protect against the type and amount of soiling that might happen in that area.

In most cases, a disposable cover gown is used.

If the forearms may be exposed, use a long-sleeved gown.
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<th>Gowns</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>If blood or OPIM ever penetrates your gown, inform your supervisor immediately.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This incident must be investigated to determine whether you were using the proper gown for the task.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If your clothing becomes contaminated, it must be:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Removed to prevent skin or mucous membrane contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Laundered by your employer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wearing a gown when working with a patient on Contact or Droplet Precautions has two purposes:

- It protects the healthcare worker from contact with the infectious organism
- It prevents transmission of the organism to other patients or the environment.

Wear a gown if you think your clothing is likely to touch the patient or items in the patient’s room

Also wear a gown each time you enter the patient’s room if the patient has:

- Incontinence
- Diarrhea
- Ileostomy
- Colostomy
- Wound drainage without a dressing

**Always remove the gown and discard properly BEFORE leaving the isolation room.**
Aprons and Lab Coats

Cover gowns are not used in all settings to protect clothing.

An impermeable apron may be used instead, in some labs.

Lab coats are generally not considered PPE. This is because they do not prevent strike-through of wet substances.

However, if lab coats are considered barrier protection to prevent soiling of clothing, they are, by definition, PPE.

In this case, they must be provided and laundered by the employer.
A Word About Surgical Settings

Protective apparel in surgical, obstetrical, or emergency room settings should provide a good barrier to fluid penetration.

In addition to fluid-resistant gowns, other items of PPE that may be needed include:
- A protective head cover or hood
- Fluid-resistant shoe covers or booties

As with all PPE discussed in this course, head and shoe covers must:
- Cover exposed areas
- Fit properly
- Be removed when soiled or torn

Always wash your hands after removing soiled PPE. Be certain to discard used PPE in an appropriate bin.
## 6008

### Resuscitation Devices

To prevent exposure to oral secretions or blood during patient resuscitation, ambu bags or disposable resuscitation devices must be used.

Employees should not engage in mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Know:
- Which devices are available in your work area
- How to use them properly

![Image: 6008.JPG](IMAGE: 6008.JPG)
<table>
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<th>Review</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protective apparel must cover and protect the entire body.</td>
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</table>
| a. True  
b. False     |
<p>| True / False Interaction |
| [CORRECT ANSWER: B] |
| [RESPONSE TO A: Incorrect. This statement is false. Apparel must cover the parts of the bodies at risk for exposure.] |
| [RESPONSE TO B: Correct. This statement is false. Protective clothing must cover the parts of the body at risk for exposure.] |</p>
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<td>You have completed the lesson on protective apparel.</td>
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<td>Remember:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Wear a fluid-resistant gown to protect against splashes or sprays of blood in settings such as the OR and ER. Wear the type of gown that will protect against the amount of splashing and soiling expected.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Wear a gown in certain cases whenever you enter the room of a patient on Contact or Droplet Precautions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Aprons may be used as PPE in the lab setting. Lab coats are not usually considered PPE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• In the surgical setting, it may be necessary to wear a hood and booties.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use a protective device for patient resuscitation. Do not perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.</td>
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NO IMAGE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>bloodborne pathogen</td>
<td>disease-causing microorganism present in the bloodstream</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>communicable disease</td>
<td>a disease that can be transmitted directly or indirectly from person to person</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>contamination</td>
<td>the presence of infectious materials on an item or surface.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>engineering controls</td>
<td>devices or equipment that isolate or remove hazards from the workplace</td>
</tr>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>infectivity</td>
<td>ability to cause disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>mucous membrane</td>
<td>membrane lining passages and cavities communicating with the air (i.e., eyes, nose, mouth, genitourinary tract)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>other potentially infectious material (OPIM)</td>
<td>materials that carry or may carry bloodborne pathogens: certain human body fluids (semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva during dental procedures, any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood, all body fluids when it is difficult or impossible to tell which fluid is which); any unfixed human or non-human primate tissue or organ except intact skin; HIV- or HBV- containing experimental materials (e.g., cell cultures, etc.); and all human cell lines</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>PAPR</td>
<td>Powered air purifying respirator. A non disposable full hood or enclosed face cover system that provides a higher level of respiratory protection than the N95 respirator. OSHA and the CDC suggest workers use this for aerosol generating procedures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>personal protective equipment</td>
<td>specialized clothing or equipment worn by employees for protection against a hazard</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>SARS</td>
<td>severe acute respiratory syndrome</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Standard Precautions</td>
<td>an approach to infection control that treats all patient blood and body fluids as potentially infectious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>virulence</td>
<td>the degree or relative power to produce disease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Pre-assessment

1. OSHA is:
   a. The government agency that provides funding for disaster cleanup
   b. The government agency that works to protect employees from job hazards
   c. The government agency that monitors compliance with Medicare regulations
   d. The government agency that enforces EMTALA and the HIPAA Privacy Rule

Correct: The government agency that works to protect employees from job hazards
Rationale: OSHA addresses workplace hazards.

2. An engineering control is:
   a. A practical method for avoiding regulations
   b. An instruction manual for how to operate a piece of equipment
   c. A device or mechanism with built-in safety features that remove a hazard from the workplace
   d. A way of doing a particular task that reduces the employee's risk of being exposed to a hazard

Correct: A device or mechanism with built-in safety features that remove a hazard from the workplace
Rationale: An engineering control is a device with built-in safety features to address a workplace hazard.

3. An example of a work practice control in the healthcare setting is:
   a. Safety needles
   b. Personal respirator
   c. Not recapping needles
   d. Sharps disposal container

Correct: Not recapping needles
Rationale: A work practice control is a way of doing a job to avoid a hazard. An example is not recapping needles.

4. In the healthcare setting, PPE should be used:
   a. By all clinical and non-clinical staff
b. To protect against contact with infectious materials  
c. Only when caring for patients with particular diagnoses  
d. As a replacement for washing hands between patient contacts

Correct: To protect against contact with infectious materials  
Rationale: In the healthcare setting, PPE is most often used to avoid contact with infectious agents.

5. Wear gloves and a gown whenever you enter a patient's room if the patient is on:  
a. Contact Precautions  
b. Standard Precautions  
c. Airborne Precautions  
d. Universal Precautions

Correct: Contact Precautions  
Rationale: Wear gloves and a gown whenever you enter a contact isolation room.

6. Wear gloves when you might have contact with patient blood. This use of PPE applies to:  
a. All patients  
b. Only patients with confirmed HIV/AIDS  
c. Only patients with confirmed or suspected HIV/AIDS  
d. Only patients with HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C

Correct: All patients  
Rationale: Glove use to prevent contact with blood is part of Standard Precautions. Standard Precautions apply to all patients.

7. Providing and paying for a healthcare worker's PPE is the responsibility of:  
a. OSHA  
b. The patient  
c. The healthcare worker  
d. The healthcare facility

Correct: The healthcare facility
Rationale: Employers are responsible for providing and paying for PPE.

8. In a particular healthcare facility, employees launder their own scrubs. Choose the true statement about this healthcare facility:
   a. Scrubs may be used as PPE.
   b. Scrubs may NOT be used as PPE.

Correct: Scrubs may NOT be used as PPE.
Rationale: Employers must launder PPE. An item laundered by employees may not be used as PPE.

9. In a particular healthcare facility, scrubs are meant to be used as PPE. Choose the true statement about this facility:
   a. The employer must provide scrubs.
   b. The employer is NOT responsible for providing scrubs.

Correct: The employer must provide scrubs.
Rationale: Employers must provide PPE.

10. When damaged or soiled PPE is removed after use:
    a. The PPE should be checked for infectious material before disposal.
    b. The PPE should be placed in the proper bin for disposal or cleaning.
    c. The employee should place the PPE in his or her locker for later re-use.
    d. The employee should carefully wrap the PPE to take home for disposal or cleaning.

Correct: The PPE should be placed in the proper bin for disposal or cleaning.
Rationale: Damaged or soiled PPE should be removed and placed in the proper bin for disposal or cleaning.

11. In the healthcare setting, gloves must be worn when there is a risk of exposure to blood or:
    a. When there may be contact with intact patient skin
    b. When working with a patient on Contact Precautions
    c. When working with a patient on Droplet Precautions
    d. When a patient is known to have latex allergy or sensitivity

Correct: When working with a patient on Contact Precautions
Rationale: Wear gloves when working with a patient on Contact Precautions or when you may have contact with blood or OPIM.

12. A best practice for glove use is:
   a. Wash hands before and after glove use.
   b. Wash and reuse disposable gloves to save money.
   c. Use non-sterile exam gloves for invasive procedures.
   d. Ensure a snug fit by wearing gloves one size too small.

Correct: Wash hands before and after glove use.
Rationale: Hands should be washed before and after glove use.

13. In the healthcare setting, a surgical mask must be worn when there is a risk of exposure to splashes of blood or:
   a. During all care tasks with a geriatric patient
   b. When working with a patient on Droplet Precautions
   c. When working with a patient on Contact Precautions
   d. During noninvasive care tasks with a patient known to have HIV/AIDS

Correct: When working with a patient on Droplet Precautions
Rationale: Wear a surgical mask when working with a patient on Droplet Precautions or when you may be exposed to splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM.

14. A gown is most likely to be needed as PPE in:
   a. An office
   b. An exam room
   c. A waiting room
   d. An operating room

Correct: An operating room
Rationale: A gown is needed to protect against splashes or sprays of blood in the OR.
1. When a job hazard is present, OSHA:
   a. Finds a safer workplace for employees
   b. Organizes employees to protest the hazard
   c. Requires the employer to put safeguards in place
   d. Provides funding to the employer to eliminate the hazard

Correct: Requires the employer to put safeguards in place
Rationale: OSHA requires employers to safeguard their employees against job hazards.

2. A work practice control is:
   a. A practical method for avoiding regulations
   b. An instruction manual for how to operate a piece of equipment
   c. A device or mechanism with built-in safety features that remove a hazard from the workplace
   d. A way of doing a particular task that reduces the employee's risk of being exposed to a hazard

Correct: A way of doing a particular task that reduces the employee's risk of being exposed to a hazard
Rationale: A work practice control is a way of doing a task to avoid a hazard.

3. An example of an engineering control in the healthcare setting is:
   a. Surgical mask
   b. Not recapping needles
   c. Sharps disposal container
   d. Washing hands between patient contacts

Correct: Sharps disposal container
Rationale: An engineering control is a device with built-in safety features. An example is a sharps disposal container.
4. An employer must provide workers with PPE:
   a. If workers request PPE
   b. If a worker's union negotiates for PPE
   c. When the employer is able to afford additional protection for workers exposed to job hazards
   d. When engineering and work practice controls are not enough to fully protect workers from job hazards

Correct: When engineering and work practice controls are not enough to fully protect workers from job hazards
Rationale: Employers must provide PPE whenever engineering and work practice controls are not enough to fully safeguard against job hazards.

5. Wear a certified personal respirator whenever you enter a patient's room if the patient is on:
   a. Droplet Precautions
   b. Contact Precautions
   c. Standard Precautions
   d. Airborne Precautions

Correct: Airborne Precautions
Rationale: Wear a respirator to enter an airborne isolation room.

6. Under Standard Precautions, the amount and type of PPE to use for a particular task depend on:
   a. The duration of the task
   b. The likely amount of exposure
   c. Whether the patient has a confirmed bloodborne disease
   d. Whether the patient has confirmed or suspected HIV/AIDS

Correct: The likely amount of exposure
Rationale: Choose PPE based on the likely amount of potential exposure.
7. PPE for healthcare workers must be cleaned, maintained, repaired, replaced, and/or disposed of properly. This is the responsibility of:
   a. OSHA
   b. The patient
   c. The healthcare facility
   d. The healthcare worker

Correct: The healthcare facility
Rationale: Employers are responsible for cleaning, maintaining, repairing, replacing, and/or disposing of PPE.

8. In a particular healthcare facility, scrubs are meant to be used as PPE. Choose the true statement about this facility:
   a. Employees may launder their own scrubs.
   b. Employees may NOT launder their own scrubs.

Correct: Employees may NOT launder their own scrubs.
Rationale: Employers must launder PPE.

9. In a particular healthcare facility, employees provide their own scrubs. Choose the true statement about this healthcare facility:
   a. The employer must provide PPE to be worn over scrubs.
   b. The employer is NOT responsible for providing PPE to be worn over scrubs.

Correct: The employer must provide PPE to be worn over scrubs
Rationale: If employees launder their own scrubs, scrubs may not be used as PPE. The employer must provide PPE to wear over scrubs.

10. In the healthcare setting, gloves must be worn when working with a patient on Contact Precautions or:
    a. When there may be contact with intact patient skin
    b. When there is a risk of exposure to blood or OPIM
    c. When working with a patient on Droplet Precautions
    d. When a patient is know to have latex allergy or sensitivity
Correct: When there is a risk of exposure to blood or OPIM
Rationale: Wear gloves when working with a patient on Contact Precautions or when you may have contact with blood or OPIM.

11. If a healthcare worker has a sensitivity reaction to latex gloves:
   a. The worker should use utility gloves for patient care tasks.
   b. The employer must provide latex-free gloves and other PPE.
   c. The worker is responsible for providing his or her own latex-free gloves.
   d. The employer must allow the worker to provide patient care without gloves.

Correct: The employer must provide latex-free gloves and other PPE.
Rationale: Employers must provide latex-free PPE for workers who are allergic to latex.

12. In the healthcare setting, a surgical mask must be worn when working with a patient on Droplet Precautions or:
   a. During all care tasks with a geriatric patient
   b. When working with a patient on Contact Precautions
   c. When there is a risk of exposure to splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM
   d. During noninvasive care tasks with a patient known to have HIV/AIDS

Correct: When there is a risk of exposure to splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM
Rationale: Wear a mask when working with a patient on Droplet Precautions or when there is a risk of splashes or sprays of blood or OPIM.

13. A best practice for surgical mask use is:
   a. Touch only the outside of the mask.
   b. Cover the mouth only with the mask.
   c. Between patient tasks, pull the mask off and let it hang around your neck.
   d. When the mask becomes soiled or wet, remove it and then wash your hands.

Correct: When the mask becomes soiled or wet, remove it and then wash your hands.
Rationale: When a surgical mask becomes soiled or wet, remove it. Wash your hands. Put on a new mask.
14. When wearing a gown to work with a patient in an isolation room, remove the gown and discard properly:
   a. Before leaving the isolation room
   b. Immediately after leaving the isolation room

Correct: Before leaving the isolation room
Rationale: Gowns should be removed and disposed of before leaving an isolation room. This helps ensure that infectious agents will not be carried out of the room.

15. A lab coat is considered PPE if:
   a. The healthcare worker provides and launders the lab coat.
   b. The lab coat does not prevent strike-through of wet materials.
   c. The healthcare worker wears an impermeable apron over the lab coat.
   d. The lab coat is used as barrier protection to prevent soiling of clothing.

Correct: The lab coat is used as barrier protection to prevent soiling of clothing.
Rationale: If a lab coat is used as a barrier to prevent soiling of clothing, the lab coat is PPE.