

COVID-19 BASIC MEASURES

FOR HEALTH AND DEATHCARE WORKERS IN THE HANDLING OF THE DEAD

The wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is standard practice for the handling of the deceased and should be carried out in line with standard health and safety procedures. Health and deathcare workers should take precautions when handling the remains of individuals who have died from COVID-19.

REMOVING PPE CORRECTLY

USE THESE STANDARD PRACTICES TO REMOVE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT.

1. SHOE COVERS



Remove shoe covers.
(if applicable)

2. APRON



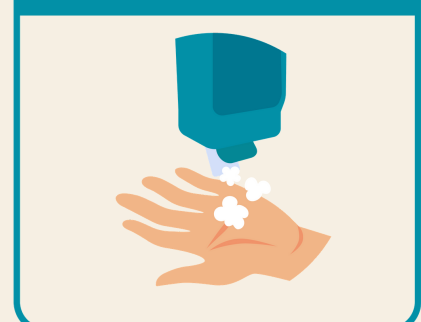
Remove apron only
touching uncontaminated
parts.

3. GLOVES



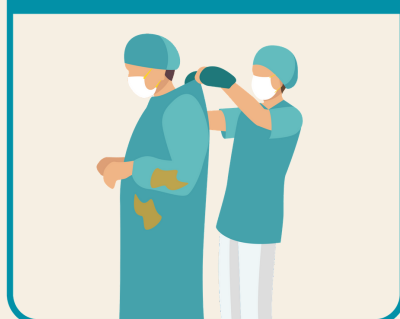
Remove gloves together.

4. HAND HYGIENE



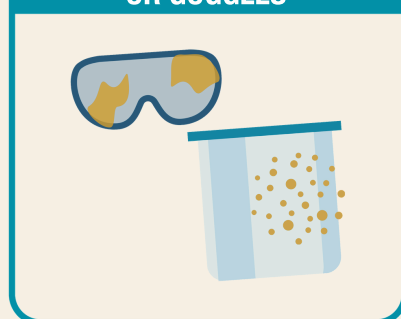
Perform hand hygiene.

5. GOWN



Removal of gown by
assistant only touching
uncontaminated parts.

6. FACE SHIELD OR GOGGLES



Remove face shield
or goggles.

7. RESPIRATOR



Remove respirator.

8. WASH HANDS



Wash hands thoroughly
after body handling and
prior to eating or drinking.



Disinfect any non-disposable equipment being used during the handling of the remains as per standard practice.



Disinfect boots after use.
If using shoe coverings, dispose of it.



Dispose used personal protective equipment to ensure they do not come into contact with people, food, drink, or eating and drinking utensils. Biohazardous waste incineration is best.



Disinfect surfaces that may have come in contact with the infected body.



Policy and practice must uphold respect towards the deceased individuals and their families and should not undermine the dignity of the dead.



ICRC