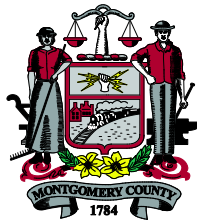


**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, CHAIR

KENNETH E. LAWRENCE, VICE CHAIR

JOSEPH C. GALE, COMMISSIONER



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY E.O.C. • 50 EAGLEVILLE ROAD

NORRISTOWN, PA 19403

610-631-6500

FAX: 610-631-6536

WWW.DPS.MONTCOPA.ORG

THOMAS M. SULLIVAN

DIRECTOR

RE: First Responder PPE Guidance

Date of original issue: 25 February 2020 / **Update: 7 March 2020**

We recommend all first responders adhere to CDC recommended PPE guidelines. Please review with your staff:

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All first responders that are **not in direct patient contact** should stand at least 6' feet away from the patient and utilize all available PPE up to the level of Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions. **Minimum** recommended PPE includes:
 - A single pair of disposable patient examination gloves.
 - Respiratory protection
- **First Responders who will directly care for a patient with possible COVID-19** infection or who will be in the compartment with the patient should follow Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions, including the use of eye protection. Recommended PPE includes:
 - A single pair of disposable patient examination gloves. Change gloves if they become torn or heavily contaminated. Gloves should ideally have an extended cuff to cover the sleeve of the gown
 - Disposable isolation gown,
 - Respiratory protection (i.e., N-95 or higher-level respirator), and
 - Eye protection (i.e., goggles or **disposable close-fitting eyewear that protects the eyes from droplets**).

When doffing PPE, it is recommended to use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer on the first responder's gloved hands prior to removal of gloves to reduce the chance of inadvertent self-contamination.

- All personnel should avoid touching their face while working.
- For full CDC guidelines regarding PPE, please refer to: [Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings](#).
- CDC also offers strategies for optimizing N95 respiratory supplies and contingency and crisis strategies here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html>

Montgomery County DPS maintains a repository of first-responder specific recommendations and links to additional information at:

<https://www.montcopa.org/3468/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19>

As updated credible information becomes available, we will share with all First Responders as appropriate.

###