

Guideline for EMS Doffing and Cleaning for Emergency Dept and Inpatient Transports

PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

Notify of ETA 10-20 min prior to arrival at the hospital (20 min preferred).

Ensure communication regarding COVID status with the receiving hospital or Medical Command.

Ensure patient has a surgical mask on or other source control.

- If nebulized treatment is being provided, stop treatment prior to entering facility and place a surgical mask.
- If oxygen is required, a face mask can be placed over nasal cannula or over oxygen mask.
- If an advanced airway is in place, make sure to communicate this with receiving hospital.

Ensure patient is covered by a sheet or containment wrap.

AT RECEIVING UNIT

EMS personnel should maintain use of mask and other appropriate PPE while entering the facility.

Proceed directly to the patient room and await receiving team in appropriate PPE.

Discuss with the receiving team the plan to transition the patient, including:

- Receiving Staff: Who from the receiving staff will be in PPE and assist with patient transition.
- Doffing Location: The preferred location for doffing PPE (e.g. patient room, anteroom, or hallway).
- **Stretcher Location**: The preferred location to temporarily place the EMS stretcher and equipment that will allow basic decontamination before leaving unit (e.g. anteroom, hallway, etc.).
- *Trash Location*: The appropriate location for contaminated trash.
- Linen Location: The appropriate location for contaminated linen.

All personnel in PPE will transition patient from EMS stretcher to hospital bed.

EMS equipment will be placed on the stretcher and pushed to the designated Stretcher Location to allow transition of the patient onto the hospital bed and transition of patient care (e.g. infusions, ventilator, etc.).

EMS Personnel Wearing Gown and/or Outer Gloves

EMS personnel will doff gown and outer gloves. Refer to the UPMC Sequence for Removing PPE.

- Remove gown & gloves, then clean hands or inner gloves
- Maintain mask and eye protection on for cleaning equipment and unit.

EMS Personnel Wearing Biohazard Suit

EMS personnel will keep biohazard suit on and retrace their steps to return to the EMS unit. If wearing an outer gown and/or outer gloves, use procedure to the left to doff outer garments prior to returning to the EMS unit.

EMS personnel will redon gloves and perform a basic decontamination of their stretcher and equipment using disinfectant wipes in the Stretcher Location.

Trash and linen will be disposed of in their designated locations.

EMS personnel will doff gloves, cleanse hands and redon gloves prior to returning to EMS unit with stretcher and equipment.

AT EMS UNIT

EMS personnel will use necessary PPE for decontamination of the EMS unit:

- Using disinfectant wipes only Mask and gloves.
- Using disinfectant spray Mask, gloves, and eye protection.

EMS Personnel Wearing Biohazard Suit

EMS personnel will follow their agency's policy regarding decontamination of the ambulance before or after doffing the biohazard suit.

EMS personnel will decontaminate the ambulance.

EMS personnel will doff their PPE using agency-based procedure.

All trash will be disposed of in the designated area.

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