Taking off personal protective equipment (PPE)

- PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the risk of self-contamination
- Gloves, aprons (and eye protection if used) should be taken off in the patient’s room or cohort area
- Do not remove the mask until after you have left the patient room or cohort area

1. Remove gloves. Grasp the outside of glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off.
   Hold the removed glove in the remaining gloved hand.
   Slide the fingers of the un-gloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist.
   Peel the remaining glove off over the first glove and discard.

2. Perform hand hygiene.

3. Remove eye protection if worn.
   Use both hands to handle the straps by pulling away from face and discard.

4. Apron.
   Unfasten or break apron ties at the neck and let the apron fold down on itself.
   Break ties at waist and fold apron in on itself – do not touch the outside – this will be contaminated. Discard.

5. Perform Hand Hygiene.

6. Remove facemask once your clinical work is completed.
   Lean forward slightly, grasp the ties from the top of the head and gently pull off the facemask. Do not touch the front of the mask. If the mask has ear loops- lean forward and grasp the loop from each earlobe and take off and discard. DO NOT reuse once removed.

7. Perform Hand Hygiene.

Many thanks to Public Health England for the use of their images. Produced by the HSE AMRIC team hcai.amrteam@hse.ie