Removal of (doffing) personal protective equipment (PPE)

PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the potential for cross contamination. The Surgical facemask/FFP2 respirator must always be removed outside the patient’s room or cohort area.

THE ORDER OF REMOVAL OF PPE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Gloves – the outsides of the gloves are contaminated.

2. Eye protection - the outside will be contaminated

3. Gown – the front of the gown and sleeves will be contaminated.

4. Do not remove facemask or respirator until after you have left the patient room or cohort area.
   Lean forward slightly, grasp the ties/straps from the top of the head and gently pull off the facemask/respirator. 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.

5. 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