

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AUGUST SAFETY SEGMENTS



Personal protective equipment (PPE) is part of what is referred to as the hierarchy of controls in hazard management. PPE plays a necessary part in the everyday work performed in continuing care. In order to work safely, each worker has to select the correct PPE. This is done after hazards have been assessed.

## THE INFORMAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT

### DIRECTIONS

Using the complimentary handout, start the discussion by discussing how hazard assessments are the foundation for health and safety. Emphasizing when informal hazard assessments are used daily makes for a safer workplace. Follow up the introduction by watching the short video "[Informal Hazard Assessments](#)"

### SAFETY SEGMENT DISCUSSION

#### Guiding Questions:

- Why are informal hazard assessments used?
- What are the three basic rights of workers?
- Which of these rights does the informal hazard assessment align best with?

#### Complementary Activity:

End the discussion by providing this handout (handout link here)



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# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AUGUST SAFETY SEGMENTS



Personal protective equipment (PPE) is part of what is referred to as the hierarchy of controls in hazard management. PPE is lowest on the list of desired controls after engineering and administrative controls but PPE plays a necessary part in the everyday work performed in continuing

## MASKS & <sup>care</sup>FACESHIELDS

### DIRECTIONS

In recent years the use of masks and face shields has become very common. However, workers need to be aware that selecting the face covering appropriate to the work and possible hazards present is important. This becomes even more important when there is a potential for coming into contact with blood or body fluids.

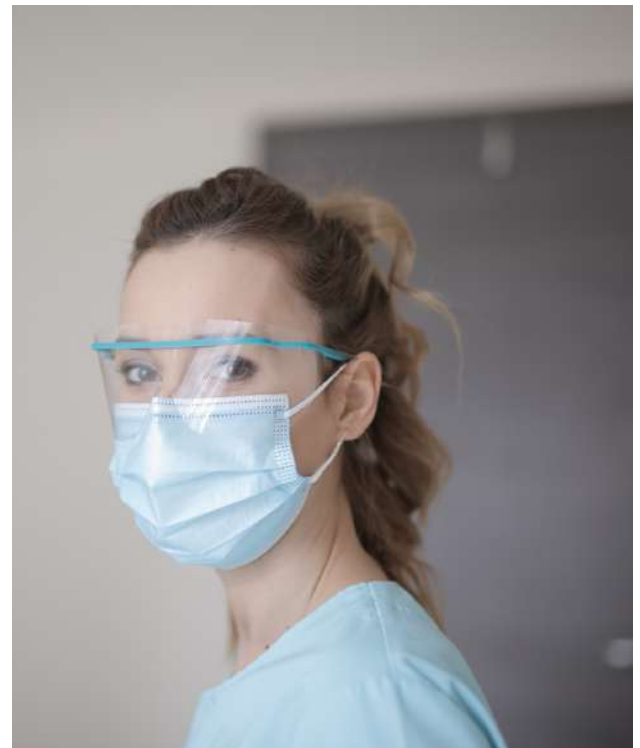
### SAFETY SEGMENT DISCUSSION

#### Guiding Questions:

- What situations might call for you to don a face shield or protective eyewear?
- Are normal prescription glasses an acceptable alternative to a face shield?
- Should you also wear a mask if wearing a face shield?

#### Notes to the Team Leader:

- Facilitate an atmosphere of support and openness to the notion of continuous mask wearing if the individual feels they need to
- Emphasize the need for face shields when the potential for spatter or blood and body fluids are present



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## HEALTH FOCUS:PPE & SKIN HEALTH

Wearing PPE for a prolonged amount of time or changing it often without giving your skin time to recuperate can have some harsh effects. Here are some tips that will help to reduce discomfort and aid in maintaining skin health while using PPE.

### DIRECTIONS

Using the infographic as a guide to lead some discussion around how continuous use of PPE might have an impact on the worker's skin. The infographic contains points on some preventive measures that can be used to reduce some of the effects of prolonged PPE use.

### SAFETY SEGMENT DISCUSSION

Guiding Questions:

- Why is it important to rinse your hands well after washing with soap?
- Is it okay to just use hand sanitizer all the time without occasionally washing your hands normally?
- What are some of the signs that PPE is impacting your skin?

Notes to the Team Leader:

- Provide the infographic as a handout after the discussion



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## TOPIC- GLOVE SELECTION

### DIRECTIONS

Wearing gloves is almost as familiar and common in continuing care as eating breakfast in the morning. However, not all gloves are created equal or equal to the safety needs required for some tasks. Use the handout and refer back to the [informal hazard assessment video](#) when talking about different types of gloves.

### SAFETY SEGMENT DISCUSSION

#### Note to Facilitator

Not all gloves are created equal, ensure the workers understand the need to change gloves, depending on the task.

#### Guiding Questions:

- What are the three types of gloves you might use?
- Why would you consider a heavy-duty rubber glove (dishwashing glove)?
- What is one of the complications of wearing gloves continuously?



# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT | AUGUST SAFETY SEGMENTS

Using PPE in the course of our normal work life protects us from different hazards, protecting our physical selves. But did you know we can also take steps to better protect our mental as well, you could call these steps, mental health PPE.

## ALTERNATE RESOURCE: MENTAL HEALTH PPE

Ineffective workload management coupled with ever increasing need to adapt to constantly changing continuing care environment can create additional stress. Being able to cope with this stress is essential. This short guide can provide

### DIRECTIONS

Download this short [handout](#) from [Mental Health America](#) and print it out for the participants to follow along. As the activity facilitator, try and review the handout to effectively guide the participants and discuss the key points.

### SAFETY SEGMENT DISCUSSION

#### Guiding Questions:

- What are some basic physical foundations to our emotional and mental health?
- What are some re-building strategies we can use during our time off?
- What are some strategies we can employ on the job?

#### Notes to the Team Leader:

- Facilitate an atmosphere of support and openness to feedback by encouraging the staff to share experience or opinion without fear of reprisal.

