

TOPIC	PPE – Suggested Products		
AREA	Service Delivery	TYPE	Work Instruction

1 Purpose

Mobility is committed to providing safe and quality care in accordance with the client's needs, goals, and preferences to optimise health and well-being.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provides a barrier for both staff and clients to reduce or eliminate the transmission of infectious agents. This is particularly important if the client has a known chronic condition from an ongoing infection caused by a multi-resistant organism. The purchase of the right equipment is essential in both safeguarding the safety of staff and clients.

2 Scope

This procedure applies to all staff who are in direct contact with clients.

3 Definitions

Care Recipient	A person who is receiving care and services under a package funded by the Australian Government, under the Aged Care Act 1997 ⁱ For the purposes of this procedure a care recipient is called a client.
Multi-resistant organisms	Multi-resistant organisms (MROs) are bacteria that are not destroyed by several different antibiotics. Some examples are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aurous); • VRE (Vancomycin-resistant enterococci), • CRE (Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae) & • ESBL (Extended Spectrum Beta Lactamase producing organisms)ⁱⁱ
Staff	Is defined to be an individual who is employed, hired, retained, or contracted by the approved provider (whether directly or through an employment or recruiting agency) to provide care or other services ⁱⁱⁱ
Transmission	An infectious agent is transmitted in five ways: <p>Direct</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct contact (touching, kissing, intercourse) 2. Droplet spread (droplets of mucous released into the air from coughing or sneezing) <p>Indirect</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Airborne (tiny particles less than 5 microns in size that stay suspended in the air e.g. measles virus) 4. Vehicleborne (objects that may indirectly transmit an infectious agent include food, water, biologic products (blood), and fomites (inanimate objects such as handkerchiefs, bedding, or sharps) 5. Vectorborne (mosquitos, flies and ticks that transmit disease)^{iv}

4 Work Instruction

If staff are unsure what PPE to purchase, please contact your Manager. Other useful sources of information are your local pharmacy and health equipment stockists. The equipment cited below is provided only by way of example to assist you when looking for quality products that are effective.

PPE should be used whenever it is indicated in the Care Plan or if it pertains to a specific procedure, such as personal care or food preparation. A table provides examples of when PPE is indicated at Appendix A.

PPE Item	Examples
P2 Respirator Mask – ensure your mask is the right size. Note any masks that are TGA approved, consistent with a AS/NZS standard or HACCP certified are compliant with industry standards.	<p>The D95 is a single-use P2 respirator mask for use in healthcare. The mask is designed to filter out non-oil based airborne particles. Featuring a lightweight flat fold design, the mask expands into a convex-shaped device with bands and FitClip™ to hold the mask in place.</p> <p>The D95 P2 is available in 5 sizes to ensure the best facial fit with two FitClip™ size options (comes with standard size FitClip™ and XL FitClip™ can be ordered separately). Recommended for use in Healthcare & Clinical Environments where Fit Checking Procedures are conducted – please see the D95 P2 Respirator with FitClip™ Instructions for Use & Fit Testing Procedure</p> <p>The D95 P2 Respirator is designed to meet the performance requirements of a P2 Class Respirator specified by AS/NZS 1716:2012 for Respiratory Protective Devices. https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/d95-p2-respirator-with-fitclip</p>
Surgical Mask	<p>Disposable adult size single use surgical face masks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ply • BFE > 99% Risk II • Excellent breathability • Adjustable nose bar for better contour fit • Fluid resistant • Lightweight and comfortable • Latex free • HACCP certified and TGA listed <p>https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/surgical-face-mask</p>
Face Shield	<p>Made of optical grade film with anti-fog and anti-glare properties, the Face Shielding Mask provides full face coverage. Ideal for using in environments where infection control is important.</p> <p>Single user, single use Fits persons who wear vision-correcting eyewear Soft forehead band and stretch comfort band for secure fit TGA Registered https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/face-shield</p>
Gloves – non-latex – use for personal care and food preparation	<p>3.2mm Powder and latex free Ambidextrous S/M/L Sizes available</p>

PPE Item	Examples
	https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/nitrile-examination-gloves
Apron	Disposable High Density Polyethylene Apron for infection control From neck to knee Bib-type loop and tie around waist Individually packed https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/apron
Shoe covers – we highly recommend a non-slip shoe cover especially when assisting with bathing and showering.	Polypropylene Shoe Cover has excellent contamination prevention between footwear and work environment. It is comfortable with good strength and abrasion resistance. The height of the boot covers ensure ultimate knee height protection. 40gsm Polypropylene has non-slip sole and good breathability 0.04mm Polyethylene is water proof HACCP certified https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/polypropylene-shoe-cover-blue-non-slip-sole
Hair covers – to be worn when preparing food	The Polypropylene Bouffant Cap 21" is high quality, ensuring containment of hair and skin shed. It is lightweight and comfortable. 14 gsm non-woven polypropylene HACCP Certified https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/polypropylene-bouffant-cap-21
Beard cover – to be worn when applicable and preparing food	The Single Loop PP Beard Covers are light weight and comfortable. They are high quality, ensuring containment of hair and skin shed. Non-woven 14 gsm polypropylene HACCP Certified https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/pp-beard-covers-single-loop
Safety Glasses	Clear safety glasses, suitable for all day wearing. Certified to AS/NZS1337.1 by SAI Global Anti-fog coated lens Full Coverage Medium impact https://www.safetyandmobility.com.au/shop/item/safety-glasses-clear
Hand Sanitiser	Not all hand sanitisers are the same. The effectiveness of an alcohol-based hand sanitiser depends on the amount of alcohol (e.g. ethanol or isopropyl alcohol) in the formulation. Look for a formulation of at least 60% alcohol in these products. If you are buying a product that states it is using the World Health Organization (WHO) formula, it should have 80% ethanol or 75% isopropyl alcohol. https://www.tga.gov.au/resources/resource/guidance/hand-sanitisers-information-consumers#consider

4 Document History

Reviewed by: Head of Care
 Authorised by: CEO
 Date Adopted: 30/11/23
 Next Review Due: 30/11/25

Version Control

Version	Date	Change
1	30/11/2023	New

Administration of this Policy

The policy will be reviewed every three years.

Related Policies and procedures

Clinical Governance framework
 Donning and Doffing PPE Work Instruction
 Handwashing Work Instruction (this includes correct use of hand sanitiser)
 Infection prevention and control procedure
 Model of Care

Applicable standards, legislation, or other requirements

Aged Care Act 1997
 Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Rules 2018
 Charter of Aged Care Rights
 User Rights Principles 2014
 Quality of Care Principles 2014
 World Health Organisation (WHO)
 Workplace health and safety

APPENDIX A

Examples of when to use PPE:

Situation	PPE indicated
Client has an active respiratory infection	Mask (if client is coughing heavily and you cannot maintain 1.5m distance face shield is indicated)
Food preparation	Gloves, hair net, beard net (when applicable)
Bathing and showering	Gloves, apron, booties
Wound care (especially when exudate is present)	Gloves, mask, goggles (or face shield)
Any situation where you may come in to contact with bodily fluids	Gloves, mask (if there is a risk of splash from bodily fluids face shield or goggles)

ⁱ Home Care Packages Program Operational Manual A guide for home care providers Version 1.4 August 2023 p 165

ⁱⁱ multi-resistant_organisms_mro-en.pdf (nsw.gov.au) Accessed 28 April 2023

ⁱⁱⁱ Schedule 1 of the Aged Care Act 1997 Cth

^{iv} Principles of Epidemiology | Lesson 1 - Section 10 (cdc.gov) Accessed 28 April 2023