

COVID-19

PPE CONSERVATION



The CDC advises that ALL healthcare providers across the country, both acute and non-acute, should implement PPE conservation protocols regardless of whether they are treating a COVID-19 patient or are experiencing supply chain strains.

Conservation **MUST be a national strategy** to stretch available PPE supply as long as possible. To ensure this, **always follow best practices.**

Place a barrier between the hazard and the health care provider

Screen and triage patients prior to entering the hospital

Leverage telehealth for appropriate patients

Limit patient care areas to essential personnel only

Limit visitors

Cohort/group COVID patients to a single area

Assign designated teams of HCP to provide care for all COVID patients

Implement qualitative fit testing protocols



Cancel elective surgeries

Shift eligible patients to non-acute care settings

Use expired N95 masks or face masks

Use NIOSH-approved industrial N95 masks, safety glasses, gown alternatives

Limit use:

N95 masks, face masks, eye protection and gowns only for HCP who need protection from both airborne and fluid hazards

Extend the use:

- Wear the same N95 mask and facemask for repeated close contact encounters
- Clean and disinfect eyewear
- Launder reusable patient gowns and lab coats

