

REUSE OR EXTENDED USE OF EYE PROTECTION

COVID-19

REUSE:

removal and storage of eye protection between patients

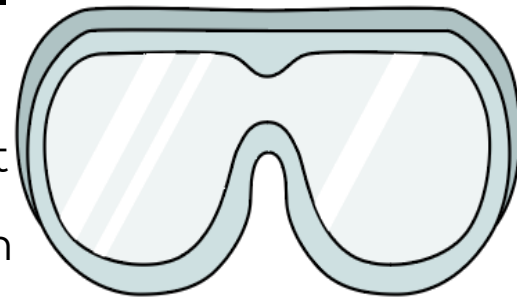
VS

EXTENDED USE:

use of the same eye protection for repeated close contact with multiple patients without removal of eye protection between patients (acceptable when patients have the same respiratory pathogen)

Considerations for **extended use** or **reuse** of eye protection to reduce contact transmission:

- Acceptable for disposable or reusable devices
- If eye protection becomes **soiled or difficult to see through**, it should be removed and reprocessed; **discard if damaged**
- Leave patient care area if eye protection must be removed
- Do not touch eye protection--if eye protection is touched, wearer should immediately perform proper hand hygiene measures



Considerations for **reprocessing eye protection**:

- Adhere to manufacturer instructions if available
- If instructions are unavailable, use the following guidelines:
 - (1) While wearing gloves, wipe the inside, followed by the outside using a clean cloth with neutral detergent or a cleaner wipe
 - (2) Wipe the outside with a wipe or clean cloth saturated in EPA-registered hospital disinfectant solution
 - (3) Wipe outside with clean water or alcohol, removing residue
 - (4) Fully dry (air dry or with clean, absorbent towels)
 - (5) Remove gloves from hands and perform hand hygiene

Storage & Donning of Used Eye Protection:

- Eye protection should be stored in a clean **sealable paper bag or other breathable container**
- Reused or extended use eye protection should have **ONLY ONE WEARER**
- **Clean hands with soap and water OR alcohol-based sanitizer before and after touching/adjusting the eye protection for wear**
- **Do not touch the outside of the eye protection**--if contact occurs, wash hands as described above
- Wear a pair of non-sterile gloves when re-donning the eye protection, discard gloves when finished



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Health Department
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Last reviewed: 06/08/2020