### **LUHD Critical Care Directorate Guidelines**

# H1N1 Influenza: Guideline for Critical Care: Version 9<sup>th</sup> June 09

## Safe Removal of PPE

The order for removing PPE is important to reduce cross contamination so the order outlined below always applies even if not all items of PPE have been used:

#### a) Gloves

Assume the outside of the glove is contaminated:

- Grasp the outside of the glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off
- · Hold the removed glove in gloved hand
- Slide fingers of the ungloved hand under the remaining glove at wrist
- · Peel second glove off over first glove
- Discard appropriately



## b) Gown or apron

Assume the gown/apron front and sleeves are contaminated:

- · Unfasten or break ties
- Pull gown/apron away from the neck and shoulders touching the inside of gown only
- Turn the gown inside out
- Fold or roll into a bundle and discard appropriately

#### c) Goggles or face shield

Assume the outside of goggles or face shield is contaminated:

- To remove, handle by head band or ear pieces
- · Discard appropriately





#### d) Respirator or surgical mask

Assume the front of respirator/surgical mask is contaminated:

- Untile or break bottom ties, followed by top ties or elastic and remove by handling ties only
- Discard disposable ones appropriately





#### Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing all PPE.

To minimise cross-contamination, the order outlined above should be applied even if not all items of PPE have been used. Clean hands thoroughly immediately after removing all PPE.