
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CARE AND MULTI-SERVICE STAFF
FROM: LINDSAY DICKIESON
SUBJECT: REUSABLE GOWNS
DATE: APRIL 11, 2020

As was mentioned in the staff meetings, we now have 20 reusable gowns. These will be put in to use for CONTACT precautions with residents who have MRSA (or other contact precautions) and are otherwise well. These gowns are not water resistant like the disposable ones. The cotton material is much like your scrubs and will absorb fluid if they become wet. Please keep this in mind when choosing a gown.

This will help preserve our supply of disposable yellow gowns.

To use for CONTACT precautions:

DONNING (putting on the PPE):

1. Perform hand hygiene.
2. Put on the gown first (before gloves). Tie the waist at your front or side if possible. Tie the neck ties behind the neck with a bow. Remember you will need to untie these – unlike the yellow disposable gowns you cannot ‘break’ the ties.
3. Put on gloves.

DOFFING (taking off the PPE):

1. With gloves still on, untie the waist tie (it should be at your side or front). Your front is considered dirty so you can use your dirty gloves to untie the waist tie.
2. Remove your gloves.
3. Reach behind your neck to untie the neck tie carefully – do not touch your face or skin. Shake the gown off – be careful not to touch the outside of the gown.
4. Roll up or ball up the gown, and immediately put into laundry that is specific for the reusable gown or the resident laundry in their room. They must be laundered after each use.
5. Perform hand hygiene.

Each day, tie the laundry bag and put down the chute. They will be washed and returned with the regular laundry and placed in the isolation cart or neighborhood closet if the cart is full. If you run out of reusable gowns, there are disposable ones for back-up.

