

## **Appendix 16 –Aide memoire for personal protective equipment (PPE) for direct patient care when applying transmission based precautions (TBPs)**

Before undertaking any procedure, staff should assess any likely exposure to blood and/or other body fluids, non-intact skin or mucous membranes and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) that protects adequately against the risks associated with the procedure.

	<b>Gloves<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Apron</b>	<b>Gown</b>	<b>FRSM</b>	<b>RPE</b>	<b>Eye /face protection</b>
<b>Contact precautions</b>	As per SICPs <sup>2</sup>	Yes	If an apron provides insufficient protection	No <sup>3</sup>	No	As per SICPs
<b>Droplet precautions</b>	Yes	Yes	If an apron provides insufficient protection	Yes	No	Yes
<b>Airborne Precautions</b>	Yes	No (See 'gown')	Yes	No (See 'RPE')	Yes	Yes

### **When to put on and remove PPE**

For **contact precautions** required PPE should be put on within the patient room/care area immediately **before** direct contact with the patient or their environment and should be removed and disposed of **before** leaving the patient room/care area.

For **droplet and airborne precautions** required PPE should be put on **before** entering the patient room/care area and removed and disposed of **after** leaving the patient room/care area, ideally in a designated area e.g. an anteroom or lobby if available.

**Gloves must always be removed after each task on the same patient and between each patient contact. Hand hygiene must be performed after gloves are removed.**

Hand hygiene must be performed after removing PPE and before leaving the patient care area.

1. Gloves are **NOT** required to carry out near patient administrative tasks, e.g., when using the telephone, using a computer or tablet, writing in the patient chart; giving oral medications; distributing or collecting patient dietary trays.
2. Local risk assessment may also indicate the use of gloves for specific organisms such as scabies, multi-drug resistant organisms or those with increased potential for hand and environmental contamination such as spore forming organisms e.g. *C. difficile*.
3. Unless required by universal masking policy.