

# The Anatomy of PPE

Five PPE items that are necessary to treat patients who have COVID-19

## Goggles

- Personal eyeglasses do not provide adequate protection from COVID-19
- Some can be safely worn over eyeglasses

## Filtering facepiece respirator (FFR)

- Has a rating that indicates filtering efficiency level
- Includes N95 respirator, which filters 95% of airborne particles
- Must be N95 or higher at Northwestern Medicine

## Full face shield

- Protects areas of the body where virus can enter: eyes, nose and mouth
- Can be worn over goggles and respirator for full-face protection

## Clean, non-sterile gloves

- Type depends on the task
- Some types can interact negatively with certain medications

## Isolation gowns

- Gowns are easier to put on and remove than one-piece coveralls, which are less commonly worn.

### Sources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
[cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp\\_part/default.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/default.html)  
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