


TO: All CMOs, FMOs, and UN Clinic Doctors

DATE: Dec 5, 2022

A:

REFERENCE: DHMOSHPH20221205
EVD

FROM: Dr. Esther Tan, Senior Medical Officer 
DE: Public Health Section, Division of Healthcare Management
& Occupational Safety & Health (DHMOSH)
Department of Operational Support (DOS)

SUBJECT: **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Required for Standard Precautions
and Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (including Ebola Virus Disease)**
OBJET: **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Required for Standard Precautions
and Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (including Ebola Virus Disease)**

1. This memo provides all UN Chief Medical Officers, Force Medical Officers, and UN Clinic doctors and their teams, with guidance on the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Standard Precautions and Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (VHF), including Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

2. Medical Supplies and PPE for Standard Precautions:

- All UN health facilities should ensure it has necessary supplies for implementation of Standard Precautions in your facility. Please review what is Standard Precautions here at <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-UHL-IHS-IPC-2022.1>
- Annex 1 provides you with a complete list of recommended Standard Precautions items that you should have on hand at your facility at any one time. The quantities of such stocks will be at your discretion as it should be calculated on a case-by-case basis based on the daily case load of patients and other variables.

3. Medical Supplies and PPE for Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (including EVD):

- UN health facilities in the below locations are considered to be at high risk for exposure to EVD, and therefore require PPE on standby for the specific management of VHF/EVD patients.
 - *countries/locations where VHF/EVD outbreaks are active/endemic*
 - *countries/locations where staff frequently travel to VHF/EVD outbreak/endemic countries, or*
 - *countries/locations where there are uniformed personnel/formed troops deploying in from VHF/EVD outbreak/endemic countries*
- Any UN health facility in the above locations/countries should use this calculator - <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/calculator.html> to ensure they have on hand and/or procure the necessary PPE to mitigate this particular risk. This calculator provides you the necessary number of individual PPE needed per VHF/EVD patient seen by your facility. For information on how to use the EVD PPE Calculator, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyJqhhLwgX4>

- For the specific PPE required for VHF/EVD, please see Annex 1 of https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/137410/WHO_EVD_Guidance_PPE_14.1_eng.pdf;jsessionid=CE1F0EAC19D9E485929BAB7D9D74575F?sequence=1
 - Note that all PPE for VHF/EVD should be reserved for frontline UN healthcare providers in event that they need to manage a VHF/EVD case.
 - UN healthcare facility in the above countries/locations should also ensure to have the essential medicines to treat EVD cases. The WHO recommended list of medicines necessary for EVD treatment is available at <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055742>
4. Given the lessons learned from previous EVD outbreaks and the COVID-19 pandemic, please bear in mind the following logistics considerations when procuring/replenishing PPE stocks:
 - a. Missions are responsible for replenishing EVD PPE items; ensure items are not expired; and remain vigilant on diminishing stock levels
 - b. COVID-19 related PPE shortages have been largely addressed but delivery challenges remain that may result in delivery delays
 - c. Missions should consider all available options for EVD PPE re-supply including Local Procurement under Delegation of Authority, as well as procuring the items through LTAs established by different UN agencies for COVID-19 PPE items, and until establishment of New Contracts for medical consumables (anticipated to be in place January 2023).
 5. Please feel free to work closely with the Medical Support Section of OCSM and DHMOSH Public Health in implementing the above guidance.
 6. For any public health/technical questions, contact dos-dhmosh-public-health@un.org For all logistics related questions please contact medicalsection@un.org and cc koutrafour@un.org
 7. A UN EVD dedicated webpage is available at this link: <https://hr.un.org/page/ebola>
 8. With best regards

Annex 1: List of PPE Items Needed at All Time for Standard Precautions

The following items should be kept on the trolley at all times so that PPE is always available for health-care workers.

Equipment	Stock present
Eye protection (visor or goggles)	
Face shield (provides eye, nose and mouth protection)	
Gloves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reusable vinyl or rubber gloves for environmental cleaning • latex single-use gloves for clinical care 	
Hair covers (optional)	
Particulate respirators (N95, FFP2, or equivalent)	
Medical (surgical or procedure) masks	
Gowns and aprons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • single-use long-sleeved fluid-resistant or reusable non-fluid-resistant gowns • plastic aprons (for use over non-fluid-resistant gowns if splashing is anticipated and if fluid-resistant gowns are not available) 	
Alcohol-based hand rub	
Plain soap (liquid if possible, for washing hands in clean water)	
Clean single-use towels (e.g. paper towels)	
Sharps containers	
Appropriate detergent for environmental cleaning and disinfectant for disinfection of surfaces, instruments or equipment	
Large plastic bags	
Appropriate clinical waste bags	
Linen bags	
Collection container for used equipment	

Reference: WHO's "Guidelines on Infection prevention and control of epidemic- and pandemic-prone acute respiratory infections in health care" available at [9789241507134_eng.pdf \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241507134_eng.pdf)