

Glove and Other PPE Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

The purpose of this guidance document is to outline glove recommendations for providers administering the COVID-19 vaccine.

Glove Use for Vaccine Administration

Gloves are not recommended for most vaccination administration and **are not required** for the COVID-19 vaccine unless the person administering the vaccine is likely to come into contact with potentially infectious body fluids or has open lesions on their hands. If used improperly, [gloves can increase the likelihood of spreading germs](#).

If gloves are worn during vaccine administration:

- They should be changed between patients along with performing proper hand hygiene.
- Vinyl gloves are appropriate.
- If nitrile gloves are a limited resource, prioritize/consider appropriate uses for nitrile gloves.
- Gloves are single use and cannot be washed.
- Improper aseptic technique or hand hygiene measures can increase the risk of infections in both the patient and the individual performing the vaccination.

Other PPE Requirements

- Vaccine providers should follow [standard precautions](#) and [transmission-based precautions](#) outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- [A face mask and eye protection are required](#) based on current community transmission. Healthcare personnel working facilities located in areas with moderate to substantial community transmission should wear a face mask and eye protection with every patient encounter. These do not need to be changed between patients unless they are soiled. An N95 or equivalent higher-level respirator is not generally required for vaccine administration unless indicated by transmission-based precautions.

Hand Hygiene

Implement infection control measures before patient arrival, upon arrival, throughout the visit, and until fully cleaned and disinfected. Staff must perform hand hygiene between each vaccination administration. Urge the importance of [hand hygiene](#) for patients and visitors that includes the use of soap and water, or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

COVID-19 Immunization Resources from CDC

- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Healthcare Settings \(CDC\)](#)
- [Infection Control FAQs \(CDC\)](#)
- [Infection Control Recommendations webpage \(CDC\)](#)
- [Vaccine administration poster \(CDC\)](#)
- [Vaccination Guidance for Providers during the COVID-19 Pandemic \(DOH\)](#)

More COVID-19 Information and Resources

Stay up-to-date on the [current COVID-19 situation in Washington](#), [Governor Inslee's proclamations](#), [symptoms](#), [how it spreads](#), and [how and when people should get tested](#). See our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

A person's race/ethnicity or nationality does not, itself, put them at greater risk of COVID-19. However, data are revealing that communities of color are being disproportionately impacted by COVID-19- this is due to the effects of racism, and in particular, structural racism, that leaves some groups with fewer opportunities to protect themselves and their communities. [Stigma will not help to fight the illness](#). Share accurate information with others to keep rumors and misinformation from spreading.

- [WA State Department of Health 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [WA State Coronavirus Response \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Find Your Local Health Department or District](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Stigma Reduction Resources](#)

Have more questions about COVID-19? Call our hotline: **1-800-525-0127**, Monday – Friday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Weekends: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For interpretative services, **press #** when they answer and **say your language**. For questions about your own health, COVID-19 testing, or testing results, please contact a health care provider.

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 ([Washington Relay](#)) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.