

Eye Protection Types Recommended by ECDC & CDC for COVID-19



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This interim guidance has been updated based on currently available information from the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations about COVID-19 and the current situation.

Industrial hygienists use a well-accepted hierarchy to achieve feasible and effective controls to protect workers from occupational exposures: elimination, substitution, engineering controls, administrative controls, and then, personal protective equipment (PPE). According to CDC, the optimal way to prevent airborne transmission of infections in a healthcare setting is to use a combination of interventions from across the hierarchy of controls, not just PPE alone. Employers are responsible for selecting appropriate PPE and must ensure that healthcare workers receive training on and demonstrate an understanding of:

- When to use PPE
- What PPE is necessary
- How to properly don, use, and doff PPE in a manner to prevent self-contamination
- How to properly dispose of or disinfect and maintain PPE
- The limitations of PPE

Any reusable PPE must be properly cleaned, decontaminated, and maintained after and between uses. Facilities should have policies and procedures describing a recommended sequence for safely donning and doffing PPE.

ECDC & CDC Recommendations for Eye Protection

CDC recommends that when caring for a patient with known or suspected COVID-19, healthcare professionals should use a respirator or facemask, gown, gloves, and eye protection. Regarding eye protection, CDC recommends as follows:

- Put on eye protection (i.e. goggles or a disposable face shield that covers the front and sides of the face) upon entry to the patient room or care area. Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection.
- Remove eye protection before leaving the patient room or care area.
- Reusable eye protection (e.g. goggles) must be cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer's reprocessing instructions prior to re-use. Disposable eye protection should be discarded after use.

ECDC recommends that goggles or face shields should be used to prevent virus exposure of the eye mucosa and advises that they must fit the user's facial features and be compatible with the wearer's respiratory protection. ECDC has published other recommendations about PPE, including guidance on donning and doffing, on its website.

Please visit the links at the end of this document for the latest recommendations from CDC and ECDC.

Types of Eye Protection



Goggles

Protective glasses set in a flexible frame (as of rubber or plastic) that fits snugly against the face. Goggles provide protection against impact and splashing.



Visors/Face Shields

Visors shield the front and sides of the face, providing protection against impact and splashing. They attach to headgear or frames.



Headgear

Headgear can be used for face protection when head protection is not required. The general purpose headgear is designed and approved for use in combination with protective visors.



Frames

For use in conjunction with hard hat and visors.

Various Forms of Eye & Face Protection Provided by MSA Safety

Eye Protection Type	Goggles	Headgear & Frames for Helmets	Visors
PRODUCT NAME	<p>P/N 10145578 Flexi-Chem™, Sightgard+ coating</p> <p>P/N 10104671 ChemPro, Sightgard®+ coating</p> <p>P/N 10145597 ChemPro, OptiRock coating</p> <p>P/N 10076384 PERSPECTA GIV 2300, Sightgard coating AF/AS</p> <p>P/N 10064844 PERSPECTA GH 3001, Sightgard coating AF/AS</p> <p>P/N GA3027B Responder, twin lens, outer AS, inner acetate lens AF</p>	<p>P/N 10127061 V-Gard Headgear Standard, without visor</p> <p>P/N 10127062 V-Gard Headgear Elevated Temperature, without visor</p> <p>P/N 10121266 Helmet-mounted visor fame, standard for 30 mm slotted helmets</p> <p>P/N 10121268 Helmet-mounted visor frame, universal, featuring a rubber strap to attach to any helmet</p>	<p>P/N 10115836 Clear PC, 203 mm long</p> <p>P/N 10115840 Clear PC 1.5 mm, 203 mm long</p> <p>P/N 10115863 Clear PC, 241 mm long</p> <p>P/N 10154949 Clear PC 1.5 mm, 203 mm long, AS/AF</p>
APPROVALS	<p>FlexiChem EN 166: 34 FT Lens: 2C-1.2 MSA 1 FT N</p> <p>ChemPro EN166: 349 BT Lens: 2C-1.2 MSA 1 BT 9N</p> <p>Perspecta GIV 2300 EN166: 34 BT Lens: 2C-1.2 MSA 1BT</p> <p>Perspecta GH 3001 EN166: 34B Lens: 2C-1.2 MSA 1B</p> <p>Responder EN166: 3459-BT Lens: 2C-1.2 MSA 1BT 9 KN</p>	<p>V-Gard Headgear EN 166 389 BT / EN 1731-F</p> <p>V-Gard Helmet-Mounted Visor Frames EN166 389 BT / EN1731-F</p>	<p>P/N 10115836 EN166: 2C-1.2 1B</p> <p>P/N 10115840 EN166: 2C-1.2 1B 389</p> <p>P/N 10115863 EN166: 2C-1.2 1B</p> <p>P/N 10154949 EN166: 2C-1.2 1B 389 KN</p>

Please Note

Personal protective equipment (PPE) provides limited protection and may help to reduce exposure to biological agents and the risk of viral infection but **IMPORTANTLY IT DOES NOT ELIMINATE** the risk of exposure, infection, illness, or death, including with respect to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19. MSA relies on the expertise and recommendations of CDC, ECDC, and other cited authorities, and MSA does not warrant the efficacy of any of its PPE products, or of the information or products in this Brief, in preventing the spread and/or contraction of coronaviruses. It is your responsibility to determine what PPE is suitable for your intended use and consistent with guidelines from your employer and the relevant health authorities. MSA disclaims liability for any loss or damage arising from any information contained herein, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential, regardless of the legal or equitable theory asserted, including warranty, contract, negligence or strict liability.

The situation with COVID-19 is rapidly evolving. Organisations like the ECDC and CDC are providing updated information and guidance as it becomes available.

For the most-up-to date information on COVID-19, you should regularly consult guidance being published by national and international organizations, such as the CDC, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and/or your local health authority. Guidance on COVID-19, including information on actions needed to prevent, control, and manage contact with the virus, is available at the following websites:

ECDC	https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/coronavirus https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/COVID-19-guidance-wearing-and-removing-personal-protective-equipment-healthcare-settings-updated.pdf
US CDC	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html
US NIH	https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-officials-discuss-novel-coronavirus-recently-emerged-china
WHO	https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

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