



## Ministry of Health of The Republic of Lithuania

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### ON THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR PROTECTION FROM COVID-19 DISEASE (CORONAVIRUS INFECTION) IN NON-HEALTH SECTOR INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Health following the guidance of international institutions and other countries and seeking to prevent the spread of COVID-19 disease (coronavirus infection) presents recommendations on the use of personal protective equipment for protection from COVID-19 disease (coronavirus infections) in non-health sector institutions.

#### **Respiratory tract protection**

- For respiratory tract protection of non-health sector personnel, performing assigned tasks, disposable face masks are sufficient.
- The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) recommends the use of respirators FFP2 or FFP3 that filter Class 2 or Class 3 particles when in close contact (less than 2 meters) with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 disease (coronavirus infection).
- When providing services in confined spaces, the premises must be fitted with partitions and regularly ventilated and cleaned. If these conditions cannot be met, and the contact takes more than 15 minutes with no possibility to keep a distance of more than 2 meters between the individuals, it is recommended to use FFP2 or N95 respirators; however, if there is FFP2, N95 respirator deficiency, disposable face masks can be used. In this case, the face mask should also be worn by the service recipient.
- Respirators FFP2, N95 should be replaced when they become contaminated, when breathing becomes difficult. These respirators can be used for up to 8 hours.
- Disposable face masks should be replaced when they get wet, or at least every 4 hours.
- When wearing masks, constant hand hygiene should be maintained, and the mask must not be touched.

#### **Hand protection**

- Disposable gloves are not required when there is a possibility to wash and disinfect one's hands.
- Disposable gloves need to be changed depending on the frequency of contact with potentially contaminated surfaces. Gloves must be changed immediately after direct contact with the suspected or infected with COVID-19 disease (coronavirus infections) individual.
- Disposable gloves should not be disinfected with disinfectant fluids and reused after taking them off.

## General recommendations

- Recommendations for the use of personal protective equipment in personal healthcare facilities are equally applicable for long-term care and nursing facilities (<https://sam.lrv.lt/uploads/sam/documents/files/KORONA/Rekomendacijos%20del%20infekciju%20kontroles%20priemoniu%20ASPI.pdf>).
- When putting on and taking off personal protective equipment, observe the recommendations issued by the Ministry of Health (<https://sam.lrv.lt/uploads/sam/documents/files/KORONA/rekomendacijos%20ASPI%20del%20AAP%20naudojimo.pdf>).
- When working with people with obvious respiratory tract infection symptoms, they should wear a face mask.
- Maintain social distance when working, comply with hand hygiene rules, frequently ventilate premises, and ensure more frequent cleaning and disinfection of premises ([https://sam.lrv.lt/uploads/sam/documents/files/REKOMENDACIJOS%20dezinfekcijai%2020200327%20\(1\).pdf](https://sam.lrv.lt/uploads/sam/documents/files/REKOMENDACIJOS%20dezinfekcijai%2020200327%20(1).pdf)).

### The recommendations are based on the following international recommendations:

1. Rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). World Health Organization, Interim guidance, 27 February 2020.
2. Infection Prevention and Control guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities in the context of COVID19; World Health Organization, Interim guidance, 21 March 2020.
3. Personal protective equipment (PPE) needs in healthcare settings for the care of patients with suspected or confirmed novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV); ECDC, February 2020.\*
4. Home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection presenting with mild symptoms, and management of their contacts; World Health Organization, Interim guidance, 04 February 2020.
5. Getting your workplace ready for COVID-19; World Health Organization, 3 March 2020.

Source: <https://sam.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/pateiktos-rekomendacijos-del-asmens-apsaugos-priemoniu-naudojimo-negydyimo-istaigose>