

**WAC 296-823-15005 Provide and make sure personal protective equipment is used when there is occupational exposure.** (1) You must provide at no cost to employees, appropriate personal protective equipment such as:

- (a) Gloves;
- (b) Gowns;
- (c) Laboratory coats;
- (d) Face shields or a combination of masks and eye protection;
- (e) Mouthpieces;
- (f) Resuscitation bags;
- (g) Pocket masks;
- (h) Other ventilation devices.

**Note:** PPE is considered "appropriate" only if it does NOT permit blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) to pass through to or reach the employee's work clothes, street clothes, undergarments, skin, eyes, mouth, or other mucous membranes under normal conditions of use and for the duration of time which the protective equipment will be used.

(2) You must make sure that employees use appropriate PPE.

(a) In rare and extraordinary circumstances, employees can briefly and temporarily choose not to use PPE. If in their professional judgment, they believe that using PPE would prevent the delivery of health care or public safety services OR pose an increased hazard to themselves or co-workers.

(b) If the employee makes this judgment, you must investigate and document to determine if changes can be made to prevent future occurrences of the same situation.

(3) You must make sure that appropriate PPE, in sizes to fit your employees, is readily accessible at the worksite or issued to employees.

(4) You must make sure employees remove all PPE before leaving the work area.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050. WSR 15-23-086, § 296-823-15005, filed 11/17/15, effective 12/18/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 03-09-110, § 296-823-15005, filed 4/22/03, effective 8/1/03.]