

TO: Vermont Health Care Providers, Health Care Facilities, Congregate Care Facilities, First Responders, Retail Establishments, and Veterinary Practices
FROM: Mark Levine, MD, Commissioner of Health

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): New Sector-Specific PPE Use Guidance Available

Background

Personal protective equipment (PPE) use recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 vary by sector. The Health Department has made a [COVID-19 PPE Guidance Document](#) available online. The guidance includes detailed definitions of different types of PPE, guidance on PPE supply optimization, and specific guidance for the following sectors and settings:

- Adult Day Services
- Assisted Living Facilities
- Community-based Essential Services
- Community-based Healthcare Services
- Correction and Detention Facilities
- Dental Facilities
- Dialysis Facilities
- First Responders
- Grocery Stores & Essential Retail Establishments
- Hospitals
- Independent Living Facilities and Senior Living Communities
- Inpatient Psychiatric Care Facilities
- Nursing Homes
- Primary Care and Community Health Centers
- Shelters for Marginally Houses Persons
- Therapeutic Community Residences and Recovery Facilities
- Veterinary Practices

Requested Action:

- **Be familiar with the specific PPE guidance for your field or sector and share it among staff.** Guidance in the [COVID-19 PPE Guidance document](#) is based on best-practice recommendations from authorities such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The amount of published scientific literature pertaining to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is growing, so **these recommendations are subject to change.** This document is for guidance purposes only and is not tied to supply procurement or allocation.

If you have any questions, please contact the HAN Coordinator at 802-859-5900 or vthan@vermont.gov.

HAN Message Type Definitions

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from VDH, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.