PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

CONSERVATION

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SEVERE PPE SHORTAGES

In Colorado and around the world
Likely not enough to support a second surge and continued cases through winter
Everybody should be doing their part to conserve PPE
Do you really need it?
Are there alternatives?
How can I conserve?
DIFFICULT TO PROCURE

INFLATED COST

WORRIED ABOUT

- N95s
- Gowns
- Wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Everything!
WHAT SHOULD YOUR PPE LOOK LIKE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19?

The same as it did pre COVID-19

* Unless you are working with COVID+ samples, SARS-COV-2, or are conducting aerosol-generating procedures
N95 RESPIRATORS

- Protects against: particles, dust, viruses
- Does not protect against: chemicals, oily particles
- Should not be worn outside of the lab
- Should be conserved for first responders/HCP
Extended Use

- Organize your task flow so that you minimize donning and doffing
- Wear for your entire shift

Re-use

- Do not share masks
- Store in a paper bag
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Strictly follow donning and doffing techniques
- Discard N95s following use during aerosol generating procedures
- Discard if contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions or other bodily fluids
- Discard if obviously damaged or becomes hard to breathe through
- Consider use of a face shield over the N95 to reduce surface contamination
Gowns: do you really need them?
  - Can you wear lab coats?
  - EHS has a laundering service: ehs.compliance@ucdenver.edu

Gloves
  - Do not wear outside of the laboratory
  - Try to conserve
    - Organize your task flow so that you minimize glove changes

GOWNS AND GLOVES
WIPES AND HAND SANITIZERS

Use an alcohol spray instead
Contact EHS (lacey.Klindt@cuanschutz.edu) for a 70% ethanol spray

Do you have access to a hand washing sink? Preferred method
CDC:

- Handwashing reduces the amounts of ALL types of germs and chemicals on hands
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers reduces the number of microbes but not ALL
- People tend to not use a large enough volume or wipe it off before it has dried
- If there is a sink...wash your hands! Often.
WASH YOUR HANDS...

All the time.