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.