



WHE IPC Pillar Alice Simniceanu, Dr. April Baller

IPC Technical and Clinical Hub, Integrated Health Services, WHO HQ WHO Health Emergencies, WHO HQ 29 May 2020

Agenda



1. Introduction to Infection prevention and Control

2. IPC guidance for COVIDrecommendations for immunization settings





Introduction to IPC

Importance of Infection Prevention and Control



Protecting yourself



Protecting your patients



Protecting your family & community





IPC Core Components



Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

Programmes should be implemented at national and health care facility levels; it should include an IPC focal point at each facility.

IPC should be an <u>ongoing</u> activity undertaken by all health workers.

IPC programme involves training in IPC measures; including personal protective equipment (PPE) and understanding of modes of transmission of diseases, including COVID-19 virus.





IPC: Standard Precautions for all health care settings

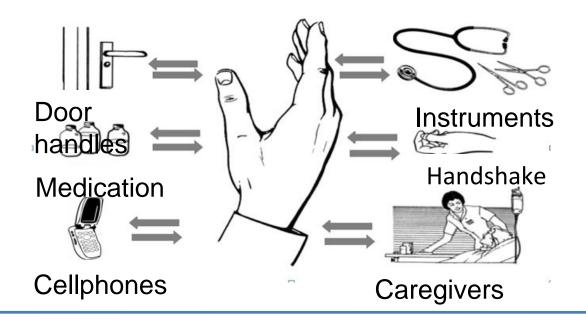
- 1. Hand hygiene
- 2. Respiratory hygiene (etiquette)
- 3. PPE according to the risk assessment
- 4. Safe injection practices, sharps management and injury prevention
- 5. Safe handling, cleaning and disinfection of patient care equipment
- 6. Surface and environmental cleaning
- 7. Safe handling and cleaning of soiled linen
- 8. Waste management





Why is hand hygiene important?

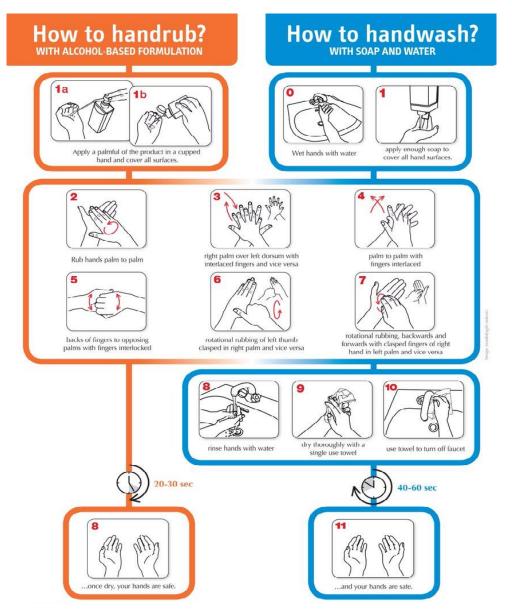
- Practicing good hand hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of germs in the health care setting and community
- Our hands are our main tool for work as health care workers- and they are the key link in the chain of transmission







Hand Hygiene: HOW





Use appropriate product and technique

An alcohol-based hand rub product is preferable, if hands are not visibly soiled

Rub hands for 20–30 seconds!

Soap, running water and single use towel, when visibly dirty or contaminated with proteinaceous material

Wash hands for 40–60 seconds!

Respiratory Hygiene

Good respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette can reduce the spread of microorganisms into the environment that cause respiratory infections.

** For health workers – do not come to work if experiencing respiratory symptoms!**

HOW?

- Cover the nose and mouth when sneezing and/or coughing with a tissue or your sleeve/inside of your elbow, if no tissue is available
- Perform hand hygiene afterwards with alcohol based hand rub products or water and soap if hands are visibly soiled
- Stay away from others when ill (particularly for health workers to avoid coming to work when ill)
- Avoid introductory kissing or shaking hands when ill
- Avoid close contact with people who exhibit symptoms
- Wear a medical mask if having respiratory symptoms











Risk Assessment and Standard Precautions



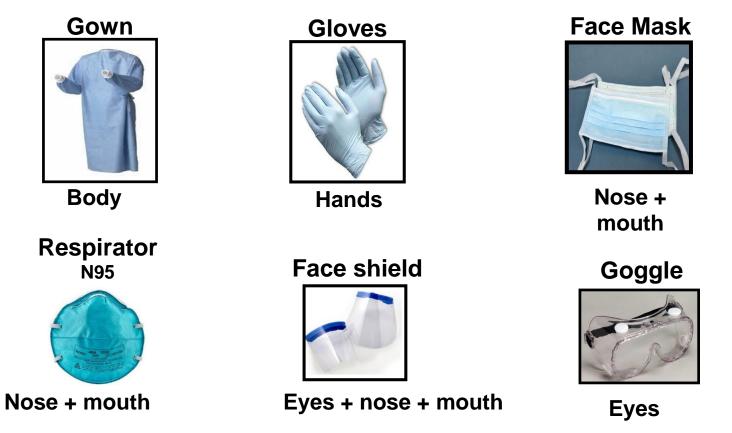
Risk assessment: risk of exposure and extent of contact anticipated with blood, body fluids, respiratory droplets, and/or open skin

- Select which PPE items to wear based on this assessment
- Perform hand hygiene according to the WHO "5 Moments"
- Should be done for each patient, each time

Make this routine!

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) items:





The type of PPE used will vary based on the health service provided, the individual risk-assessment, and additional transmission-based precautions needed.

The seven steps to safe injections

1 Clean workspace	
2 Hand hygiene	
3 Sterile safety-engineered syringe	
4 Sterile vial of medication and diluent	
5 Skin cleaning and antisepsis	
6 Appropriate collection of sharps	
7 Appropriate waste management	



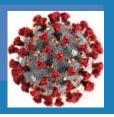


IPC recommendations for COVID-19 in the context of immunization





Modes of transmission of COVID-19



Droplet

- Respiratory droplets (particles >5-10 µm in diameter)
- generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- Any person who is in close contact with someone who has respiratory symptoms (sneezing, coughing) is at risk of being exposed to potentially infective respiratory droplets

Contact

- Direct contact with infected people through touching
- Indirect contact with surfaces in the immediate environment; droplets may land on surfaces, thus, the immediate environment of an infected individual can serve as a source of transmission if someone touches it and then their face

Airborne

- Only aerosol-generating procedures in health settings
 - tracheal intubation, noninvasive ventilation, tracheotomy, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, manual ventilation before intubation, and bronchoscopy

Infection prevention and control during health care when COVID-19 is suspected

World Health Organization

Interim guidance 19 March 2020



https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-is-suspected-20200125

Rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and considerations during severe shortages

Interim guidance 6 April 2020



https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331695/WHO-2019-nCov-IPC_PPE_use-2020.3-eng.pdf

Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19

Interim guidance

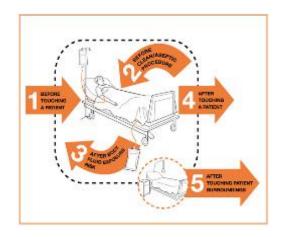
5 June 2020



https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak

IPC online training options





Standard precautions: Hand hygiene

Show course details Enroll me for this course



How to put on and remove personal protective equipment (PPE)

Show course details Enroll me for this course



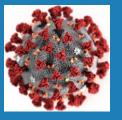
Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19))

Show course details Enroll me for this course





Risk assessment recommendations for immunization — COVID-19



Program leaders

(National or subnational level)

- 1. Confirm the local COVID-19 transmission scenario.
- 2. Consider health service and delivery strategy to be used and make a risk assessment.
- Define and recommend which personal protective equipment items which should be used for the health service delivery and the setting based on this assessment and assure appropriate IPC training and appropriate supply of necessary equipment.



Individual Health Worker

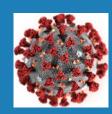
(Fixed site/outreach/campaign site)

- $1.\quad$ Adhere to national guidance and protocols for IPC measures
- 2. Perform a risk assessment before every patient interaction
 - ➤ Based on this personal risk assessment of exposure to COVID-19, select which additional personal protective equipment items to wear.





Recommended IPC Activities for Health Workers



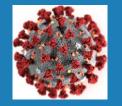
COVID-19 Transmission setting	IPC activities in any setting (fixed, outreach, mass campaign)	Personal Protective Equipment
No Cases	 Adhere to national IPC protocols Always apply standard precautions Screening recommended in all settings Maintain 1 meter distance between vaccinators 	 Adhere to national IPC protocols Additional PPE indicated by the risk assessment per recipient
Sporadic or Cluster cases	 Maintain 1 meter distance between vaccinators and accompanying members/family members as much as possible Ensure that the recipient and caretaker is positioned sideways to the vaccinator (not face to face) Hand hygiene between recipients 	 Adhere to national IPC protocols Medical masks can be considered for use by health workers Where surveillance is weak, health workers are encouraged to wear medical masks
Community transmission	Disinfection of surfaces after every patient (if applicable)	 Adhere to national IPC protocols Health workers should wear medical masks throughout the session





Use of PPE during immunization delivery





Hand hygiene	Practice between each recipient (before and after contact).
PPE item	When to use
Masks	In areas with COVID-19 community transmission, health workers should wear a medical mask throughout the immunization session. If COVID-19 cases are sporadic or in clusters, medical masks can be considered for use by health workers. The mask should be replaced when damaged, contaminated or damp.
Eye protection	Not routinely required. Use only if risk of splashes from droplets or body fluids are anticipated into the eyes, as indicated by risk assessment conducted before every interaction with recipients. Consider for oral vaccination when self-administration is not possible.
Gloves	Not routinely required. Use only if there is risk of direct contact with blood and body fluids, non-intact skin is anticipated, as indicated by risk assessment conducted before every interaction with
Gown	recipients. Gown or gloves should be discarded after single use.

Community Engagement

- Risk communication
 - Ensure safety measures are communicated to the community prior and throughout the campaign
 - Messages need to be adapted to immunization campaign in the outbreak context
- Community engagement
 - Allocate time to engage community leaders and mobilizers about the vaccination site
 - Train community mobilizers in IPC measures



Physical distancing, Measles Campaign. DRC March 2020

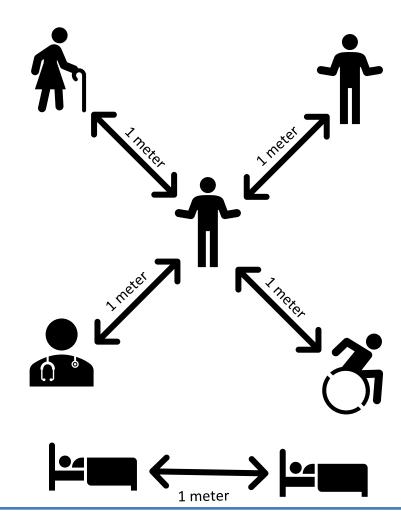




How to set up a safe vaccination site



- **Built environment:** Pick a well **ventilated area** or outdoor space where you can ensure one-way flow and physical distance
- Avoid crowded **waiting areas**, limit persons accompanying the person needing vaccination, and ensure a 1metre distance between others or between chairs
- Ensure the availability of **hand sanitizer** or a hand washing station is available at the entrance of the health facility
- Perform **screening** of persons presenting respiratory symptoms before admission to the vaccination posts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection
- Ensure adequate space for the **sideways positioning** of the recipient and caretaker so they are not face-to-face to the vaccinator







Screening

- Intended for the early recognition of possible COVID-19 cases to determine protection measures
- Ensure one way direction (flow) of recipients throughout process
- Separation: at least 1 meter maintained between all patients
- Signage posted for recipients to report symptoms
- Masks are required for screening by health workers unless 1 meter physical distance can be maintained between the screener and recipient



Physical distancing during routine Immunization. Malawi, May 2020





PPE required when managing suspect COVID-19 cases



Droplet & Contact precautions for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases

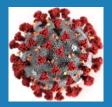
- 1. hand hygiene
- 2. gown
- 3. eye protection (face shield or goggles)
- 4. medical mask
- 5. gloves







Recommended IPC Kit for Outreach/Campaign Kit



In addition to vaccination supplies, health workers are advised to carry IPC kits with them, as a precaution. This kit contains PPE that may be required based on individual risk assessment.

This kit should at minimum contain:

- 1. Alcohol based hand rub
- 2. Medical mask (bring several for replacement needs)
- **3. Eye protection** (in case there is a need)
- **4. Gloves** (in case there is a need)
- **5. Gowns** (in case there is a need)
- 6. Garbage bag









Thank You!

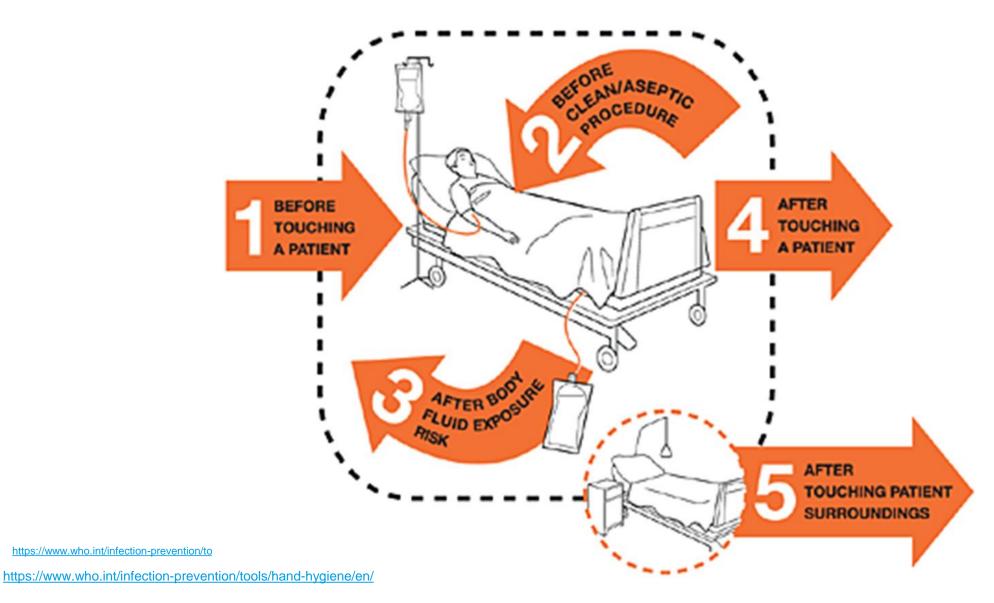






Hand Hygiene: WHO 5 moments





How to wash hands in settings with little water?

- Practicing good hand hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of germs in the health care setting and community
- Best possible efforts should be made to provide hand washing stations
- Local innovations and creative solutions are encouraged and may be adapted to assure a water source for facilitating handwashing with soap and water before/after each recipient
- If water is not available, alcohol-based hand rubs <u>must</u> be made available to health workers
- WHO has a recommended local hand rub formulation instructions

https://www.who.int/infection-prevention/tools/hand-hygiene/handrub-formulations/en/







How to wear a mask properly

- Ensure **hand hygiene** is performed before putting on the mask
- Place the mask carefully, ensuring it covers the mouth and nose, and tie it securely to minimize any gaps between the face and the mask.
- **Avoid touching** the mask while wearing it. If a used mask is inadvertently touched, use an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water to clean hands.
- Replace masks as soon as they become damp with a new clean, dry mask.
- Remove the mask using the appropriate technique: do not touch the front of the mask but untie it from behind or from the straps
- After removal of the used mask, clean hands either using alcohol-based hand rub or use soap and water (if hands are visibly soiled)
- Do not re-use single-use masks. Discard after each use and dispose of them immediately upon removal.









Recipients and Caregivers

- Facilitate ways for recipients and caregivers to respect physical distancing from other clients visiting the health service (e.g., sign posts, physical markings)
- Community members should not be refused access to health services if they are not wearing masks; if they have COVID-19 symptoms, they should be given a medical mask and separated from other clients
- Masks are not encouraged for children
- Fabric masks can be used by the general public if distancing cannot be maintained



Physical distancing, Measles Campaign. DRC March 2020





Resources for COVID-19

IPC documents

https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/infection-prevention-and-control

https://www.who.int/infection-prevention/publications/en/

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331695/WHO-2019-nCov-IPC_PPE_use-2020.3-eng.pdf

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak

Questions and Answers

https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses

If you cannot find an answer you can email our general IPC email with your question:

WHEIPC@who.int





Immunization services in <u>fixed site</u> – IPC Actions (1)

To be applied	Infection Prevention & Control Actions
For vaccinators and health workers	 Do not come to work if having symptoms compatible with respiratory illness; these are symptoms consistent with the surveillance definition of a severe acute respiratory illness. https://www.who.int/publications-detail/global-surveillance-for-human-infection-with-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov) Adhere to national guidance and protocols for IPC measures and use recommended personal protective equipment in line with national policy (next slide) Perform a risk assessment before every patient interaction Perform hand hygiene before/after each recipient using soap and water or with a hand sanitizer that contains 60 - 80% alcohol Clean and disinfect environmental surfaces often, including table tops, chairs, light switches https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-the-covid-19 Strictly adhere to safe waste management protocol for discarded PPE https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-the-covid-19-virus-interim-guidance
During screening	Maintain 1 metre distance between screener and recipients/companion at all times.
During all sessions	 Conduct sessions in well-ventilated areas or outdoor spaces if possible. A well-ventilated area is one that can be achieved through open windows and natural ventilation. The recirculation of indoor air through the use of fans, air-conditioning units is to be avoided. Whenever possible, separate the vaccination site from curative services (i.e., different hours and different spaces). Minimise wait times as much as possible Limit number of individuals present at immunization visit to avoid crowded wait rooms; hold smaller sessions at more frequent intervals; schedule immunization appointments Bundle immunization with other health services to limit visits to the health centre
For recipients	 Limit the number of family members accompanying the person to be vaccinated (one companion) Maintain 1 metre distance among recipients at all times





Immunization services in <u>fixed site</u> — **PPE equipment** (2)**

Item	Recommendation
Medical masks	 Health workers should wear masks in areas with COVID-19 transmission and use for the duration of the immunization session. The mask can be replaced when damaged, contaminated or damp. In areas with clusters of cases, health workers may consider wearing masks https://www.who.int/publications-detail/rational-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-and-considerations-during-severe-shortages In areas where the surveillance systems are weak, health workers should consider wearing masks If during screening, 1 meter distance cannot be assured between recipient and the health worker, the health worker should wear a mask Any recipient identified with respiratory symptoms should be given a mask and removed from common waiting areas.
Gloves	 Not routinely required. Use only if direct contact with blood and body fluids, non-intact skin is anticipated, as indicated by risk-assessment per recipient If gloves are used, then they must be changed between every recipient and disposed in a bin with a lid, followed by proper hand hygiene.
Gowns	Not routinely required. Use only if there is risk of splashes (of body fluids or droplets) onto the health care worker's body, as indicated by risk-assessment per recipient
Eye Protection	Unlikely. Only if risk of splashes from droplets or body fluids into the eyes, as indicated by risk assessment per individual. Consider for oral vaccinations when self-administration is not possible.

^{**} When no direct contact with individuals is involved and 1 meter distance can be respected, (e.g. self-administration of oral vaccines), use of personal protective equipment by health workers is not required





Immunization services in <u>outreach</u> — IPC Actions (1)

To be applied	Infection Prevention & Control Actions
For vaccinators and health workers	 Do not come to work if having symptoms compatible with respiratory illness; these are symptoms consistent with the surveillance definition of a severe acute respiratory illness. Adhere to national guidance and protocols for IPC measures and use recommended personal protective equipment in line with national policy (next slide) Perform a risk assessment before every patient interaction Perform hand hygiene before/after each recipient using soap and water or with a hand sanitizer that contains 60 - 80% alcohol Clean and disinfect environmental surfaces often, including vaccine carriers and transported materials https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-the-covid-19-virus-interim-guidance
During screening	Maintain 1 metre distance between screener and recipients/companion at all times.
At outreach posts	 Conduct sessions in well-ventilated areas or outdoor spaces if possible Minimise wait times as much as possible Limit number of individuals present at outreach post to avoid crowds
House to house visits	 Adapt measures to maintain distance between health workers and additional family members Avoid unnecessary interaction with those who are not recipients
For recipients	 Limit the number of family members accompanying the person to be vaccinated (one companion) Maintain 1 metre distance among recipients at all times





Immunization services in <u>outreach</u> — PPE equipment (2)**

Item	Recommendation
Medical masks	 Health workers should wear masks in areas with COVID-19 transmission and use for the duration of the immunization session. The mask can be replaced when damaged, contaminated or damp. In areas with clusters of cases, health workers may consider wearing masks https://www.who.int/publications-detail/rational-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-and-considerations-during-severe-shortages In areas where the surveillance systems are weak, health workers should consider wearing masks If during screening, 1 meter distance cannot be assured between recipient and the health worker, the health worker should wear a mask Any recipient identified with respiratory symptoms should be given a mask and removed from common waiting areas.
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Gowns	Not routinely required. Use only if there is risk of splashes (of body fluids or droplets) onto the health care worker's body, as indicated by risk-assessment per recipient
Eye Protection	 Unlikely. Only if risk of splashes from droplets or body fluids into the eyes, as indicated by risk assessment per individual. Consider for oral vaccinations when self-administration is not possible. Should be brought in IPC kit for outreach as precaution.

^{**} When no direct contact with individuals is involved and 1 meter distance can be respected, (e.g. self-administration of oral vaccines), use of personal protective equipment by health workers is not required





Immunization services in mass campaigns — IPC Actions (1)

To be applied	Infection Prevention & Control Actions
For vaccinators and health workers	 Do not come to work if having symptoms compatible with respiratory illness; these are symptoms consistent with the surveillance definition of a severe acute respiratory illness. Adhere to national guidance and protocols for IPC measures and use recommended personal protective equipment in line with national policy (next slide) Perform a risk assessment before every patient interaction Perform hand hygiene before/after each recipient using soap and water or with a hand sanitizer that contains 60 - 80% alcohol Clean and disinfect environmental surfaces often, including vaccine carriers and transported materials https://www.who.int/publications-detail/water-sanitation-hygiene-and-waste-management-for-the-covid-19-virus-interim-guidance
During screening	Maintain 1 metre distance between screener and recipients/companion at all times.
At outreach posts	 Conduct sessions in well-ventilated areas or outdoor spaces if possible Minimise wait times as much as possible Limit number of individuals present at outreach post to avoid crowds
House to house visits	 Adapt measures to maintain distance between health workers and additional family members Avoid unnecessary interaction with those who are not recipients
For recipients	 Limit the number of family members accompanying the person to be vaccinated (one companion) Maintain 1 metre distance among recipients at all times





Immunization services in mass campaigns — PPE equipment (2)**

Item	Recommendation
Medical masks	 Health workers should wear masks in areas with COVID-19 transmission and use for the duration of the immunization session. The mask can be replaced when damaged, contaminated or damp. In areas with clusters of cases, health workers may consider wearing masks https://www.who.int/publications-detail/rational-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-and-considerations-during-severe-shortages In areas where the surveillance systems are weak, health workers should consider wearing masks If during screening, 1 meter distance cannot be assured between recipient and the health worker, the health worker should wear a mask Any recipient identified with respiratory symptoms should be given a mask and removed from common waiting areas.
Gloves	 Not routinely required. Use only if direct contact with blood and body fluids, non-intact skin is anticipated, as indicated by risk-assessment per recipient. Should be brought in IPC kit for outreach as a precaution. If gloves are used, then they must be changed between every recipient and disposed in a bin with a lid, followed by proper hand hygiene.
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^{**} When no direct contact with individuals is involved and 1 meter distance can be respected, (e.g. self-administration of oral vaccines), use of personal protective



Norld Health



Guiding principles for immunization activities during the COVID-19 pandemic

Interim guidance 26 March 2020



Global guidance issued – immunization related

https://www.who.int/publications-detail/guiding-principles-for-in-munization-activities-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-interim-guidansaization

Available Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish

POLIO ERADICATION PROGRAMME CONTINUITY PLANNING

http://polioeradication.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-POL-programme-continuity-planning-20200325.pdf

Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccination and COVID-19

Scientific brief 12 April 2020



https://www.who.int/publications-detail/bacille-calmette-gu%C3%A9rin-(bcg)-vaccination-and-covid-19

Immunization in the context of COVID-19 pandemic

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) 16 April 2020





https://www.who.int/publications-detail/immunization-in-the-context-of-covid-19-pandemic

Available Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish

Community-based health care, including outreach and campaigns, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

Interim guidance May 2020







https://www.who.int/publications-detail/community-based-health-care-including-outreach-and-campaigns-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-pandemic

Considerations for school-related public health measures in the context of COVID-19

Annex to Considerations in adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19

10 May 2020



Framework for decision-making: implementation of mass vaccination campaigns in the context of COVID-19

Interim guidance 22 May 2020





RECOMMENDATIONS

Thursday, 21 May 2020

POLIO ERADICATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Updated urgent country and regional recommendations

Maintaining essential health services: operational guidance for the COVID-19 context

Interim guidance 1 June 2020



Global guidance issued – immunization related

https://www.who.int/publications-detailed entire the context-of-covid-19

World Health

Morld Health

Morld Health

Morld Health

Morld Health

Morld Health

Morld Health

https://www.who.int/publications-detail/framework-for-decision-making-implementation-of-mass-vaccination-campaigns-in-the-context-of-covid-19

http://polioeradication.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/03/updated-POB-country-and-regionalrecommendations-20200521.pdf

https://www.who.int/publications-detail/10665-332240