Personal protective equipment (PPE) is used every day by healthcare personnel (HCP) to protect themselves, patients, and others when providing care. However, based on frequently asked questions, HCPs are not clear on PPE usage in various scenarios.

According to OSHA PPE standards (29 CFR 1910 Subpart I), HCP must receive training on and demonstrate an understanding of:

- when to use PPE
- what PPE is necessary
- how to properly don, use, and doff PPE in a manner to prevent self-contamination
- how to properly dispose of or disinfect and maintain PPE
- the limitations of PPE

OSDH implemented the following various measures to assist you in meeting the above OSHA requirements and help protect your team as well as your residents:

- Provide weekly conference calls and included training on PPE
- Respond to numerous PPE FAQs
- Provide an Infection Control Specialist on the calls
- Conduct on-site and phone consultations as requested
• Developed a PPE Training Video that includes a demonstration on how to properly don/doff PPE

• Provide training on limited use and extended use of PPE

• Instruct how to properly dispose, clean, disinfect and store PPE, if appropriate

In addition to the above measures, OSDH is now providing the LTC Facility Staff PPE Usage Grid that will benefit you in training and protecting your staff.

Based on CDC recommendations, this tool provides guidance on the type of PPE to use in various scenarios, as well as additional guidance on facemasks and non-reuse of disposable gowns.

We encourage you to utilize this tool during orientation for new employees, and additional training for current staff members. Post visual reminders in the break-room, nurses station, and PPE carts, if available.

Your feedback on this tool, and any other resource or service we provide is always welcome.