



South African  
Pharmacy Council

# SAPC COVID-19 Infection Prevention Guidelines for the Pharmacy

## HYGIENE

- Pharmacy staff should practise good hygiene by washing hands with soap and water AND using alcohol-based hand sanitizers as often as necessary.
- When no hand gloves are worn, pharmacy staff should disinfect hands before and after attending to patients.
- Wherever possible, provision should be made for patients and other pharmacy visitors to disinfect their hands.
- Wash/disinfect your hands before wearing any PPE item (gloves, respirator, etc.) and after removing PPE item.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- **Respirators or medical facemasks:** As pharmacy staff encounter possible at-risk persons daily, it is recommended that they be provided with N95 (or equivalent) respirators or facemasks. These should be used in line with World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/when-and-how-to-use-masks> )
- **Gloves:** Non-sterile gloves should be provided to pharmacy staff. Pharmacy staff should discontinue use if these become damaged or become heavily contaminated.

## SURFACES

- Regular disinfection of surfaces that patients come into contact with (such as countertops, card payment machines, pens, etc.) is encouraged.

Pharmacy professionals are also urged to familiarise themselves with FIP Guidelines on COVID-19 available at [www.fip.org/coronavirus](http://www.fip.org/coronavirus)

Important localised information and various toolkits are available on the national COVID-19 website at [www.sacoronavirus.co.za](http://www.sacoronavirus.co.za)