

SITUATION: Eye protection without a proper face seal (*fits directly to skin to ensure there are no gaps/openings between goggles and eyes/face*) has resulted in blood and bodily fluids exposures (BBFE) among staff.

BACKGROUND: OSHA/ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2020 eye protection standards state that eye protection must seal to the users' face to prevent BBFE. Eye protection purchased by employees outside of normal ordering processes may not meet these standards and may not follow PPE policy #04.0209. Since January 1, 2019, 361 BBFEs including splash exposures have been reported. After reviewing the incidents, it was determined that 75% of the 361 exposures, staff were compliant in wearing eye protection; however, the eye protection type was not adequate to prevent exposure.

ASSESSMENT:

- ANSI/OSHA standards indicate eye protection is intended to fit and seal immediately surrounding the eyes and that face shields are secondary protection.
- Infection Prevention (IP)/Workforce Health and Safety (WHS) testing of current eye protection in the NM system identified five products that met the ANSI/OSHA/ISEA requirements (see below) and prevented exposure during testing.
- Non-NM issued PPE, including eye protection, has historically been incorporated into the care environment without WHS/IP approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

- The NM System PPE Management Guidelines and Conservation subgroup supports replacing all eye protection in circulation with those that meet ANSI/OSHA/ISEA specifications.
- WHS/IP/Supply Chain will facilitate a system-wide (including RMG and NMG) standardization of eye protection.

EYE PROTECTION MEETING ANSI/OSHA STANDARDS (SEE TABLE ON PAGE 3 FOR LINE LISTING)



UVEX Strategy
Available late
November
PS# 415066



Uvex Safety
Goggles,
V-Maxx Clear Anti-
fog lens
PS# 303794



Uvex Stealth
Anti-fog/Anti-
Scratch
PS# 368843



3M Goggle 500
Series
PS# 368844



Medline Standard
Goggles with Vents
PS# 349850



NEXT STEPS

Unit/area directors and leaders:

- Inform staff that there will be a change in eye protection and they are expected to use the approved products. *Consider sharing the five options available to determine if there is a preference and to aid in assessing quantity needed.*
- As of **November 5, 2021**, only the approved eye protection will be available to order in PeopleSoft.
- It will take approximately 30 days to receive the approved eye protection. If orders have not been placed, leaders should place them as soon as possible; *Reminder: PPE should be charged to the unit/area cost center.*

Go-live Friday, November 5:

- As of go-live, staff should use only the approved eye protection (above).
- All unapproved eye protection should be discarded post go live

Q: Are samples available?

A: Please use the visual provided to determine which products to purchase for staff. There are no samples at this time.

Q: Will the products work for staff who wear glasses and/or bifocals?

A: Yes, many of these products are designed to be worn over prescription glasses.

Q: Can staff request an accommodation for a different product if none of these options work for them or if they have a medical consideration?

A: Employees can request an accommodation evaluation. Please contact WHS to make an appointment to review the incompatibility of approved eye protection and your specific medical consideration.

Q: Is the new eye protection anti-fog?

A: Some of the products are anti-fog. There is anti-fog spray available for those that are not.

Q: Is there a list of unapproved eye protection?

A: **Only eye protection that seals (*fits directly to skin to ensure there are no gaps/openings between goggles and eyes/face*) meets regulatory standards.**

Q: What should we do with all unapproved eye protection?

A: Please discard all unapproved eye protection.

Q: When do staff need to wear the approved eye protection that seals to their face?

A: Anytime there is a risk for splash or BBFE to eyes/face, the approved eye protection should be used.

Q: Do staff have to use the approved eye protection as part of universal eye protection as outlined in COVID-19 PPE guidelines?

A: Staff should use the approved eye protection anytime there is a risk for splash or BBFE to eye/face. If desired, they can also use it as part of the universal eye protection outlined in the COVID-19 PPE guidelines but are not required if there is no risk for splash or BBFE to the eyes/face.

Q: Will face shields no longer be available for ordering?

A: Face shields will still be available for ordering in Peoplesoft but approved eye protection should be worn when there is a risk for splash or BBFE to eye/face. For example, face shields are an appropriate choice for eye protection for staff delivering meals to inpatients as there is no risk for splash or BBFE to eye/face.

Q: Do units/areas have to select just one approved eye protection product?

A: No, areas can choose to order a selection of approved eye protection products to accommodate staff needs.

Q: Is the eye protection designated for use by one person or can it be cleaned/disinfected and reused by someone else?

A: Operational leadership should determine how their supply of eye protection is managed.

Q: How do I order eye protection post-go-live?

A: After go-live, leaders will continue to order eye protection via PeopleSoft.

Q: How is the approved eye protection cleaned?

A: Staff should continue to use hospital-approved disinfectant wipes to clean eye protection between use and as needed.

Q: Can the new eye protection be worn while also wearing elastomeric respirators?

A: Yes, the new eye protection fits with elastomeric respirators.

Q: Can the approved eye protection be used when handling hazardous drugs?

A: Yes. All approved eye protection can be used for prevention of BBFE as well as hazardous drug/chemical drug management.

Q: Who should staff contact if they have questions or need more information?

A: Please refer staff to the PPE Policy/COVID-19 Page/BBFE. If additional details are needed regarding eye protection products, please contact WHS. If there are questions related to infection concerns, please contact Infection Prevention.

SUMMARY TABLE OF APPROVED EYE PROTECTION MEETING ANSI/OSHA STANDARDS

Manufacturer Name	Description	PeopleSoft#
Medline	Standard Goggles With Vents	349850
3M Healthcare	Goggle 500 Series	368844
Honeywell	V-Maxx Safety Goggles	303794
Honeywell	Uvex Anti-Fog/Anti-Scratch	368843
Honeywell	Uvex Strategy Goggles	415066