

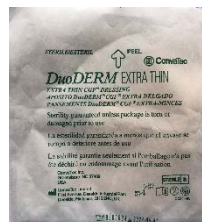
Guidelines for prevention of pressure injuries on the face and head caused by the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Purpose: Review the steps to prevent pressure injuries on the face and head caused by the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

1. Areas at risk for pressure injury development include the forehead, cheek bones, bridge of the nose, and behind the ears.
 - Frequently adjusting PPE may contribute to pain, discomfort, and pressure in these areas
 - Pressure injuries may appear as non-blanchable reddened areas on the face, head, or behind the ears, blisters, or open wounds
 - Dressings may be applied to protect at-risk intact skin and/or open wounds
2. To protect areas in contact with PPE or open wounds, DuoDERM[®] Extra Thin dressing may be applied
 - DuoDERM[®] Extra Thin Spot (Lawson # 223542)

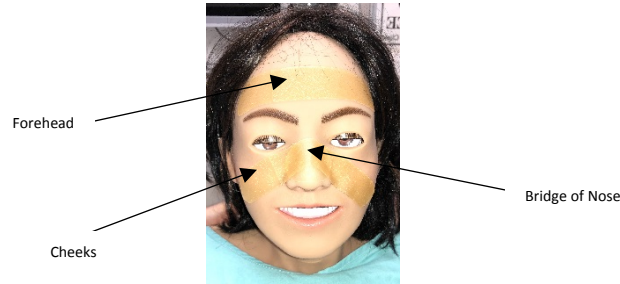


- DuoDERM[®] Extra Thin 6x6 (Lawson # 102126)



- Cut squares, rectangles, or circles of DuoDERM[®] Extra Thin large enough to pad where mask or face shield sits over the forehead, cheek bones, and bridge of the nose. DuoDERM[®] Thin Spots may also be used
 - Remove backing from DuoDERM[®] Extra Thin dressing

- Apply dressings where the mask sits over facial prominences; adheres best on clean dry skin



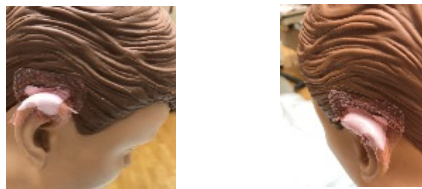
- Leave in place for entire shift or reapply as needed (do not removed when doffing and donning new PPE)
- Don N-95 mask or isolation mask and face shield with headband (or goggles)
- ****For N-95 mask, perform N-95 mask seal check by exhaling gently while blocking the paths for air to exit the mask. A successful check is when the mask is slightly pressurized before increased pressure causes outward leakage. ****

3. To protect and cushion the skin behind the ears, Allevyn™ Gentle Border may be applied

- Allevyn™ Gentle Border (Lawson 394350)



- Apply Allevyn™ Gentle Border to fit behind ears in the fold of ears (mask straps should hold dressing in place)



- Leave in place for entire shift or reapply as needed (do not remove when doffing and donning new PPE)
- Don N-95 mask or isolation mask and face shield with headband (or goggles)
- ****For N-95 mask, perform N-95 mask seal check by exhaling gently while blocking the paths for air to exit the mask. A successful check is when the mask is slightly pressurized before increased pressure causes outward leakage. ****

4. To remove DuoDERM® Extra Thin

- Consider the use of Sensi-Care® Sting Free Skin Barrier to assist with removal from sensitive skin



- Stretch DuoDERM® Extra Thin lateral to the skin (like a Command™ strip) and remove slowly.
 - Discard used DuoDERM® Extra Thin in the trash container (do not reuse)
5. To remove Allevyn™ Gentle Border
- Gently peel Allevyn™ Gentle Border from the skin
 - Discard used Allevyn™ Gentle Border in the trash container (do not reuse)
6. Contact Occupational Health locally for any issues related to the use of PPE
7. Refer to the Cleveland Clinic COVID-19 Toolkit for additional information and resources