

Personal protective equipment, integrated

Country of origin | Switzerland

Primary function | Protection

Health problem addressed

Currently available personal protective equipment (PPE) against threats like Ebola and other emerging diseases are inappropriate for use in hospitals in low and middle income countries. Healthcare workers (HCW) using them are quickly exhausted and dehydrated, they do not have a good visibility of their patients and surroundings, and cannot provide appropriate and empathic care. The equipment are also cumbersome to put on and remove, which increases the risk of self-infections for HCW.

Disease addressed

Certain infectious and parasitic diseases; factors influencing health status and contact with health services.

Product information

This PPE focuses on three aspects: the whole equipment must be reusable, it must be simple and safe to use, and it must provide HCW with comfortable working conditions during at least 3 hours. To achieve this, a multidisciplinary team is working on the design of the suit, its material, the ventilation system, as well as on non-technical aspects of the industrial value chain (manufacturing, distribution, training, disinfection, etc.) that is necessary to efficiently deploy the PPE in the field.

Use and maintenance

User: Trained caregiver (e.g family member), nurse, general physician.

Training: Basic training on infection prevention and control as well as 2-3 times practice of donning and doffing the suit. The training lasts between half a day and a day.

Environment of use

Setting: Rural settings, urban settings, outdoors, indoors, secondary level (general hospital).

Energy requirements: Replaceable batteries, rechargeable battery.

Product specifications

Accessories: Potentially: standard batteries.

Other features: 0.5% chlorine solution.

Commercial information

Reference price (USD): 250

