

TITLE N95 Application and Removal
SUBJECT Proper Use and Procedure in application and removal of N95 mask

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POLICY

To establish consistent protocols during and after the Covid-19 Pandemic. Whenever any type of airborne respiratory infection is present, the proper use of masks is necessary to decrease the risk of exposure.

Intended Use:

This product meets CDC guidelines for M. Tuberculosis exposure control. As a respirator, it is intended to help reduce wearer exposure to certain airborne particles, including those generated by electrocautery, laser surgery, and other powered medical instruments. As a surgical mask, it is designed to be fluid resistant to splash and spatter of blood and other infectious materials.

Contraindications:

3M recommends that this respirator is not for industrial use. Not for use with beards or other facial hair or conditions that prevent a good seal between the face and the sealing edge of the respirator. Does not protect against gases or vapors (i.e. anesthetic gases such as isoflurane or vapors from sterilants such as glutaraldehyde). This respirator was not designed to be used by children.

3M HEALTH CARE Use Instructions:

1. In the U.S., before occupational use of this respirator, a written respiratory protection program must be implemented meeting all requirements of U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134 such as medical evaluation, training and fit testing. Select and use respirator in accordance with all applicable regulations, standards and professional guidance. Fit testing must be performed while the test subject is wearing any applicable safety equipment that may be worn during actual respirator use which could interfere with respirator fit, such as hair bonnets and eyewear. Follow all applicable local regulations. This respirator is designed for occupational/ professional use by adults who are properly trained in its use and limitations. The 3M FT-10 (sweet solution) or FT-30 (bitter solution) Qualitative Fit Test Apparatus or other OSHA accepted fit test protocols are recommended for fit testing this respirator.
2. Inspect respirator before each use to ensure that it is in good operating condition. Examine all the respirator parts for signs of damage including the two headbands, staples, noseclip, nosefoam and facepiece material. Ensure there are no holes in the breathing zone other than the punctures around staples and no damage has occurred. Enlarged holes resulting from ripped or torn filter material around staple punctures are considered damaged. Staple perforations do not affect NIOSH approval. The respirator should be disposed of immediately upon observation of damage or missing Parts.

3. Leave the contaminated area immediately and contact your supervisor if dizziness, irritation or other distress occurs.
4. Respirator may be used until damaged, breathing becomes difficult or contaminated with blood or body fluids. Discard after every use when used for surgical procedures. Follow national, state, local and facility infection control guidance and policies.

PROCEDURE

The following procedure must be followed each time respirator is worn.

Application of N95 mask:

- 1) Cup the respirator in your hand with the nosepiece at fingertips, allowing the head straps to hang freely below hand.



- 2) Position the respirator under your chin with the nosepiece up.



3) While holding the respirator in place, pull the top strap over your head so it rests high on the back of your head.



4) While continuing to hold the respirator firmly in place, pull the bottom strap over your head and position it around your neck, below your ears. Untwist the straps. Position the respirator low on your nose.



5) Using both hands, mold the nosepiece to the shape of your nose by pushing inward while moving your fingertips down both sides of the nosepiece.
Note: Always use two hands when molding nosepiece. Pinching with one hand may result in improper fit and less effective respirator performance.



PERFORM A USER SEAL CHECK



6 The respirator must be checked before each use. To perform the user seal check, place both hands completely over the respirator, being careful not to disturb the position, and exhale sharply. If air leaks around your nose, adjust the nosepiece as described in step 5. If air leaks at respirator edges, adjust the straps back along the sides of your head. Perform seal check again if an adjustment is made. If you cannot achieve a proper fit, see your supervisor. Do not enter area requiring respirator use.

Removal of N95 mask:

- 1) Without touching the respirator, slowly lift the bottom strap from around your neck up and over your head.



- 2) **Lift off the top strap. Do not touch the respirator.**



- 3) **Store or discard according to The N95 policy.**



PROTECTION

N95 - Particulate Filter (95% filter efficiency level) effective against particulate aerosols free of oil; time use restrictions may apply.

CAUTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

A - Not for use in atmospheres containing less than 19.5 percent oxygen.

B - Not for use in atmospheres immediately dangerous to life or health.

C - Do not exceed maximum use concentrations established by regulatory standards.

J - Failure to properly use and maintain this product could result in injury or death.

M - All approved respirators shall be selected, fitted, used and maintained in accordance with MSHA, OSHA and other applicable regulations.

N - never substitute, modify, add, or omit parts.

O - Refer to User's Instructions, and / or maintenance manuals for information on use and maintenance of these respirators.

P - NIOSH does not evaluate respirators for use as surgical masks.