

N95 Respirators: Use and Fit Testing

EASTERN CONNECTICUT
STATE UNIVERSITY

Outline

- N95 Respirators- Use and Limitations
- OSHA's Respirator Standard
- Qualitative Fit Testing
- Donning/Doffing

N95 Respirators

- Air purifying
- Tight fitting
- N: not resistant to oil
- 95: 95% effective at reducing exposure to 0.3 micron particles

Can be used to protect workers from airborne infectious agents

N95s are:

Air Purifying

vs.

Atmosphere Supplying



N95s are:

Tight Fitting

vs.

Loose Fitting



N95s purify the air with:

filters

vs.

cartridges



N95: not resistant to oil and 95% effective at reducing exposure to 0.3 micron particles



CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear agents)

Multiple Configurations and Manufacturers



Surgical masks are **not** respirators
appropriate for cough etiquette & protection
from droplets (not aerosols)



N95 respirators provide inhalation protection from infectious airborne agents (aerosols)

Permissible Practice

When effective engineering controls are not feasible, or while they are being instituted, appropriate respirators shall be used pursuant to this section.....

Written Respirator Program Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this respirator program is to ensure that all employees are protected from person-to-person transmission of airborne (inhalational) infectious agents.

➤ Your Department:

- Who is your Program Administrator?
 - Eric Germain, Dir Env. Health & Safety
- What tasks may expose staff to infectious airborne agents?
- Who in your department may be required to wear an N95 Respirator?

Selection

Which Respirators have been selected:

N95s or KN95

➤ Your Department:

- Which N95 respirators will you select?

Availability

Expiration Dates

Portability

Latex free

Nose Clips

Experience with successful fit

Medical Evaluations

(before respirator use or fit testing)

- Employees complete a mandatory medical evaluation questionnaire (Appendix C)
- The questionnaire is reviewed by a PLHCP to determine the employee's ability to wear the N95 respirator
- The PLHCP completes a clearance review form and sends a copy to the employer and employee

Fit Testing (annual) and Use

- Qualitative Fit Test
Features which compromise fit

Facial hair that interferes w/ seal

Improper donning

Humidity, Sweat

Work Practices

Facial disfigurement

Eye glasses

Excessive weight gain or loss

Failure to complete a fit check



➤ Your Department:

- Who will do the fit testing?
 - Outside vendor
 - In-House

Care of N95

- Must be replaced if wet or damaged
- Replace if contaminated
- Do not write on mask



STORAGE

- Store in a manner that protects against damage and contamination

Program Evaluation and Record Keeping

- Medical evaluations
- Fit testing
- Written respirator program

Don/Doff Respirator

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU4stQgCtV8>

Please Complete the Following Quiz

- [N95 QUIZ](#)
- If you have additional questions, please contact Eric Germain
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