Respiratory Mask and Eye Protection Guidance

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<th>When to Re-Use</th>
<th>When to Re-Sterilize (for N95)</th>
<th>When to Dispose (Throw Away)</th>
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<td>• N95 masks can be re-used up to 5 times, unless it is following an aerosol-generating procedure† or meets criteria to be thrown away.</td>
<td>(Whichever comes first) • After an aerosol-generating procedure† • After it has been used 5 times (putting on &amp; taking off = 1 time) • At the end of your shift.</td>
<td>• All masks: o Known contamination with blood/body fluids or if it becomes visibly soiled/moist. o It becomes damaged or hard to breathe through.</td>
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<td>• Putting on &amp; taking off = 1 time.</td>
<td>Do not place in re-sterilization receptacle if it meets criteria to be thrown away.</td>
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<td>• Procedure masks can be re-used by the same person until it meets criteria to be thrown away.</td>
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<td>• The same procedure mask can be worn for all direct patient care encounters, regardless of COVID-19 infection status, until it meets criteria for disposal.</td>
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<td>† N95s must be re-sterilized or disposed after leaving an aerosol-generating procedure (AGP) of a suspect/confirmed COVID-19 patient only.</td>
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<td>• If re-entry to a patient room is required following an aerosol-generating procedure, an N95 must be worn for the 69 minutes following an AGP in a non-negative airflow room. For negative airflow rooms, 28 minutes for Main Campus hospitals and 35 minutes for East Hospital.</td>
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N95 Re-Sterilization Instructions
1. Place N95 in paper bag, and transport the paper bag containing N95 to the re-sterilization receptacle location on unit
2. Tilt paper bag so that N95 falls into the re-sterilization receptacle
3. Dispose of paper bag in trash receptacle

The following mask re-use guidance applies in any isolation where a procedure mask/N-95 may be used

• To safely re-use a mask/N-95 respirator:
  1. Perform hand hygiene. Use clean gloves to put the mask/respirator on
  2. Remove mask/respirator from paper bag
  3. Adjust the mask as needed. Perform a seal check if it is an N-95 respirator
  4. Discard gloves and perform hand hygiene

• To remove a mask/N95 respirator for intended re-use:
  1. Perform hand hygiene
  2. Remove the mask by grabbing the elastics or ties at the back of the ears/head
  3. Perform hand hygiene

• To store the mask:
  1. Use a paper bag to store the mask, and label the paper bag with your name
  2. Facemasks should be carefully folded so that the outer surface is held inward and against itself to reduce contact with the outer surface during storage. Place mask/N-95 in paperbag.
  3. Perform hand hygiene

To Clean Goggles/Disposable Face Shields
• After removal, wipe with a hospital-approved disinfectant, and allow to air dry before re-use.

NOTE: Personal eyeglass shields are not permitted. They do not provide adequate protection.

PAPR Guidance
In the event that PAPRs are used, the PAPR hoods can be disinfected (with hospital-approved disinfectant) and used for multiple shifts until the hood integrity is compromised.

• PAPR hoods cannot be shared between health care employees. Please label the PAPR hood with your name. Disinfect after each use with hospital-approved disinfectant and store appropriately (e.g paper bag).

This guidance is only applicable during the COVID-19 global outbreak under the direction of the Department Clinical of Epidemiology. Updated: 6/1/20