

## **PRACTICE ALERT:**

# N-95 Respirator and Surgical/Cone Mask Re-Use Guidelines

**CONSERVE PPE!** Gather all supplies before entering patient care area and group patient care tasks together!

#### N95 Respirator & Surgical/Cone Mask Re-Use Procedure:

Obtain 2 paper bags, one to store N95 respirator and one for the surgical/cone mask after use:

- o Label (please print) Bag for and N95 respirator with date, first name, last name, & Department. Keep in designated storage area outside of your patient's room (one per patient as needed). Discard the bag for surgical/cone mask when you discard mask.
- o If caring for multiple PUI's (Patient Under Investigation), each would require a dedicated mask/N95. If caring for multiple COVID-19 positive patients, the same mask/N95 can be used.
- o Paper bags may be obtained for your units from Central Supply. Item number: 127 & 126 (larger)
- 1. Select appropriate sized N95 Respirator.
- 2. Use a pair of clean (non-sterile) gloves to don N95 respirator and adjust to confirm good seal. Sanitize hands after donning used mask.
- 3. Use a cleanable face shield (preferred) or surgical mask **OVER** N95 respirator to keep the N95 respirator clean. Do not touch front of mask or respirator during patient care.
- 4. Once done with patient care, clean hands with soap and water or alcohol based hand sanitizer:
  - o If using face shield remove and sanitize, place in 'clean' area.
  - o If using surgical/cone mask remove both by straps and store in separate paper bag outside of patient's room in designated area identified by unit management, taking care not to touch mask.
  - Remove N95 respirator by straps and store in paper bag in designated storage area, taking care not to touch respirator. Avoid touching the front of the respirator. Do not fold, crimp, or crumple respirator!





- 1. Discard if elastic straps become stretched out, nosepiece breaks, if respirator/mask is deformed or damaged or it becomes difficult to breathe through.
- 2. Discard if contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients.
- 3. Discard following close contact with any patient with another infectious disease requiring contact precautions in addition to COVID-19. (Ex: Patient is positive for COVID-19 AND C-diff).
- 4. Discard at end of shift.

### Discard Surgical/Cone Mask at end of Shift.

#### 3M Brand N95 Respirator:

- Discard surgical/cone Mask if used during aerosol generating procedures (intubation, bronchoscopy, NT suctioning, BiPAP/CPAP, Nebulization Treatments...etc.). \*Reuse N95 respirator, obtain new surgical mask.
- 2. Discard if contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients.
- 3. Discard following close contact with any patient with another infectious disease requiring contact precautions in addition to COVID-19. (Ex: Patient is positive for COVID-19 AND C-diff).
  - 4. At end of shift, place back in paper bag and leave in designated area of unit for reprocessing.

If discarding N95 Respirator you must notify Issuer (unit manager) for new respirator and tracking.

• If you are caring for COVID-19 positive patients, you may wear the surgical/cone mask, N95 respirator and faceshield or goggles in between patients. Batching work and moving from one patient room immediately to the next will help conserve PPE. Gown and gloves must be changed in between patients. Face shield, googles, and masks will be discarded if equipment is damaged, torn, or when visibility is compromised.

Surgical Mask with faceshield: Item # 6000

Surgical mask without faceshield (not pictured): Item #5776



Cone Mask: Item# 5775



**N95 Respirators:** 

Small- Item #23175 Regular- Item #23158

3M N95 Respirators, **both of these can be reprocessed**. The top is the Large, the bottom is the small.



This is the Halyard Brand N95 respirator, it should be discarded at the end of the shift.

