Mask Frequently Asked Questions



Intended Use and Purpose:

 Reduces exposure to particles including small particle aerosols and large droplets

When to Use a N95 Respirator:

- When caring for patients requiring Airborne Precautions
 - TB (suspected or confirmed)
 - Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)
 - Measles
 - Chickenpox
 - Smallpox
 - SARS
 - MERS
- When performing high-risk (aerosol generating) procedures:
 - Bronchoscopy
 - Sputum induction
 - Endotracheal intubation and extubation
 - Open suctioning of airways
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
 - Autopsies

Use Limitations

- Discard mask
 - After each patient encounter
 - After aerosol generating procedures
 - When mask becomes damaged or deformed
 - If mask becomes contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients



Intended Use and Purpose:

- Protection against large droplets, splashes, or sprays of bodily or other hazardous fluids.
- Protects the patient from the wearer's respiratory emissions

When to Use a Surgical Mask:

- When caring for patients requiring Droplet Precautions
 - Influenza
 - Meningococcal Disease
 - Pertussis

Use Limitations

- Discard after each patient encounter with isolation patients
- If used due to health care provider with respiratory symptoms, discard after 6 hours of use or if mask becomes soiled or contaminated

