



مستشفى الملك فيصل التخصصي ومركز الأبحاث
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Gen. Org. مؤسسة عامة

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INTERNAL MEMO

TO: Distribution

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FROM: Hail Alabdely, MD
Chief Medical Officer
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REF: MCA-ED/2144/41

SUBJECT: INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR THE REUSE AND EXTENDED USE OF N95 RESPIRATOR (UPDATE)

MCA-ED/1727/41

In reference to memo MCA-ED/1727/41, a follow-up interim guidelines regarding the reuse and extended use of N95 respirator, as follows:

ITEM	RE-USE OF N95	EXTENDED USE OF N95
Definition	Wearing a surgical mask or face shield over the N95 respirator when taking care of the same patient	Wearing the same N95 mask to assess different COVID-19 patients without removing the N95 respirator in between but changing yellow isolation gown, gloves and goggles or face shield
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of barriers to prevent droplet spray contamination • Discard N95 respirators following use during aerosol generating procedures • Discard N95 respirators contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients • Discard N95 respirators following close contact with any patient co-infected with an infectious disease requiring contact precautions • Use a face shield or a surgical mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended use if favored over reuse • Expected to involve less touching of the respirator • Less risk of contract transmission • The respirator must maintain its fit and function • Use of barriers to prevent droplet spray contamination • Minimize unnecessary contact

<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>over an N95 respiratory and/or other steps (e.g., masking patients), when feasible to reduce surface contamination of the respirator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand used respirator in a designated storage area or keep them in a clean, breathable container such as a paper bag between uses • Clean hands with soap and water hand sanitizer before and after touching or adjusting the respirator. Avoid touching the inside of respirator • Use a pair of clean (non-sterile) gloves when donning a used N95 respirator and performing a user seal check • Discard gloves after the N95 respirator is donned to ensure the respirator is sitting comfortably on your face with a good seal • Follow the manufacturer's use instructions, including conducting a user seal check; • Follow the employer's maximum number of donning (or use it for the whole shift) and recommended inspection procedures • Discard any respirator that is obviously damaged or becomes hard to breathe through • Pack or store respirators between uses so that they do not become damaged or deformed • N95 respirators must only be used by a single wearer • Label container used for storing respirators • Label the respirator itself between uses with the user's name to reduce accidental usage of another person's respirator 	<p>with the respirator surface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to strict hand hygiene practices • Properly don and doff personal protective equipment • Discard N95 respirators following use during aerosol generating procedures <u>with exception at Old MCO COVID-19 and 2D External Testing Center.</u> <u>These areas and similar testing areas need to adopt the reuse and extended use of N95 respirators approaches.</u> • Discard N95 respirators contaminated with blood, respiratory to nasal secretions, or other body fluids from patients • Discard N95 respirators following close contact with, or exit from, the care area of ant patient infected with an infectious disease requiring contact precautions • Consider use of a face shield or a surgical mask over an N95 respirator and/or other steps (e.g., masking patients) to reduce surface contamination • Perform hand hygiene with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after touching or adjusting the respirator • Discard any respirator that is obviously damaged or becomes hard to breathe through
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The interim guidance supersedes all previous recommendation of reusing and extending the use of N95 respirator. The information will be updated, when necessary.

Thank you.

HA/mcaf

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