

Use of N95 Respirators against Biological Agents – Hospital Setting

Within hospitals there are certain airborne infectious diseases that require the use of an N95 to protect the worker from respiratory exposure.

Patients with diseases, or suspected diseases such as TB (Tuberculosis), Measles or Chickenpox are isolated in negative pressure rooms.

These rooms are identified as containing or possibly containing an airborne disease by the Airborne Precautions sign. The sign indicates that an N95 is required for contact with that particular patient.

There are a number of ways the infectious agent may break Isolation:

- Spill of bodily fluids outside of isolation room
 - ✓ Follow spill protocols for biological substances
- Missing Patient
 - ✓ Follow local Code Yellow protocol
 - ✓ Supply all available information
- Breakdown of mechanical ventilation
 - ✓ Remove patient to functioning room
 - ✓ Have room decontaminated and repaired



Use of N95 Respirators against Biological Agents – Pandemic

During a pandemic situation the use of N95 respirators may be wide spread throughout the facility.

These respirators have the ability to be worn for multiple hours if needed, but must be replaced if any of the following occurs:

- Respirator is removed
- Respirator becomes damaged
- Respirator become excessively wet or dirty
- Breathing becomes difficult
- Air becomes excessively warm
- Dizziness or other distress occurs

If any of these occur, leave the contaminated area, discard and replace your respirator.