

ATTACHMENT A: PPE RE-USE

N95 RE-USE

Supplies of N95 respirators are in increased demand in critical settings during infectious diseases outbreaks. Existing CDC guidelines recommend a combination of approaches to conserve supplies while safeguarding health care workers in such circumstances. In these situations, existing guidelines recommend that health care institutions:

- Minimize the number of individuals who need to use respiratory protection through the preferential use of engineering and administrative controls;
- Use alternatives to N95 respirators where feasible; For example procedure masks when no aerosol generating procedures are expected.
- Implement practices allowing extended use and/or limited reuse of N95 masks and reuse when acceptable

PROCEDURE: Re-use of N-95 respirators

Re-use can occur under the following conditions:

- o N-95 respirators must only be used by a single user
- o Use a full face shield or a surgical mask over an N95 respirator to reduce surface contamination of the respirator.
- o Keep used respirators in a clean breathable container **between uses**. (e.g. paper bag)
- o Store respirators so that they do not touch each other. Staff will write their name on the bag and/or on the elastic straps so the person using the respirator is clearly identified. (Do NOT write on the actual mask)
- o Paper bags should be disposed of or cleaned each time mask is removed.
- Always use clean gloves when donning a used N95 respirator and performing a user seal check.
- **Perform hand hygiene before and after touching or adjusting the respirator** (if necessary for comfort or to maintain fit).
- Discard gloves after the N95 respirator is donned and any adjustments are made to ensure the respirator is sitting comfortably on your face with a good seal. **Perform hand hygiene after removing gloves AND after touching the re-used mask.**
- Avoid touching the mask. Anytime one touches the N95, it is necessary to perform hand hygiene as described above.

Do NOT Reuse and DISCARD N-95 respirators if:

- Contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients.
- The straps are stretched out so they no longer provide enough tension for the respirator to seal to the face
- If the nosepiece or other fit enhancements are broken
- The respirator that is obviously damaged or becomes hard to breathe through.
- The respirator has been used more than 5 times, or has been used continuously for >8 hours (not removed during that time period).

- The respirator was used during an aerosol generating procedure without a procedure mask or face shield covering the respirator.

EYE PROTECTION RE-USE PROCEDURE

When manufacturer instructions for cleaning and disinfection are unavailable, such as for single use disposable face shields or goggles:

1. While wearing gloves, carefully wipe the *inside*, followed by the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a clean cloth saturated with neutral detergent solution or cleaner wipe.
2. Carefully wipe the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a wipe or clean cloth saturated with EPA-registered hospital disinfectant solution.
3. Wipe the outside of face shield or goggles with clean water or alcohol to remove residue.
4. Fully dry (air dry or use clean absorbent towels).
5. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.