

April 2022

COVID-19 and N95s

Information for family doctors about N95s

- **Fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirators (or equivalent) should be worn for direct care of any patient with suspected/confirmed COVID-19.**
  - If you are unable to access fit-tested N95s, wear a non fit-tested N95 respirator (or equivalent), a KN95 respirator (which is designed for use without fit-testing), or a well-fitted surgical/procedure mask based on a risk assessment.
- **Family doctors may order N95s for themselves and their practice via the [Provincial Pandemic Stockpile](#)** – from dropdown menu, select “N95 Mask for Regular Supply”.
  - The **requirement for fit testing has been removed for ordering the 1870+ N95 masks for primary care** but not for other models. The expectation is for the 1870+ mask fit testing to be done when possible.
  - Direct questions to [COVID19SupplyChain@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:COVID19SupplyChain@ontariohealth.ca).
- To conserve and safely **extend use and/or re-use your N95** respirator: keep it from being contaminated by carefully storing it in a clean paper bag, or in a cleanable container with a lid. Wash your hands before and after handling your mask. Note that a mask that is wet or crumpled should be discarded.

See Health Canada’s [COVID-19 medical masks and respirators: Information for health professionals](#).

Reminder: for patients who **screen positive**, PPE also includes **isolation gown, gloves and eye protection** (goggles, face shield or safety glasses with side protection).