

Safety Tip Sheet

Limited Re-use of N95 Respirators is encouraged while caring for patients on **Airborne Isolation**.

Do **not** re-use N95 respirators for patients who require additional isolation (e.g., Contact Isolation or Novel Respiratory Isolation)

Limited Re-use Procedure

- Before entering the patient room, write your name, patient initials and room number on a clean, single-use paper bag and place it in a dry, safe area where the N95 respirator will not be crushed, damaged or deformed
- Perform hand hygiene **before and after** touching or adjusting your N95 respirator
- Don your N95 respirator per normal protocol
- When exiting the patient room, doff PPE per normal protocol
- When ready to doff your N95 respirator, perform hand hygiene
- Avoid touching the inner and outer part of the N95 by holding straps, doff used N95 respirator and gently place it into the paper bag, then perform hand hygiene
- When ready to re-use your N95 respirator, prepare a 2nd paper bag for re-use; then, while avoiding touching the inside of the N95 respirator, retrieve from the 1st paper bag; don N95 respirator, perform a user seal check, then repeat hand hygiene
- Discard 1st paper bag
- Don the rest of your PPE as per normal protocol

Reasons for discarding N95 respirators:

- If wet, soiled, or damaged in any way
- If it no longer allows for a proper fit
- After any aerosol-generating procedure (e.g., intubation, bronchoscopy, administering nebulized medications)
- After 5 uses or one work shift
- After caring for and/or being in the room of any patient who requires more than just Airborne Isolation (e.g., Contact Isolation or Novel Respiratory Isolation)

Limited Re-use Procedure Notes

- Avoid touching inside of N95 respirator
- Do not share N95 respirators with others
- Limit reuse of the same N95 respirator for the SAME patient
- Only one (1) respirator per paper bag