



COVID-19

RESPONSE

PPE Conservation and Extended Wear FAQ (3/12/20)

Q: Is it safe to reuse disposable N95s?

A: Yes, as long as you follow specific donning, doffing, and storage procedures. These recommendations incorporated OSHA standards and manufacturing instructions for use and were developed with input from Infection Disease Physicians, Infection Prevention, Employee Health and Safety.

Q: How do I safely reuse my disposable N95?

A: Cover the disposable N95 with a mask/full face shield. Follow specific PPE doffing procedures to ensure contamination does not occur. The N95 must be stored in a well-ventilated container and in a manner not to compromised the shape of the mask (i.e. paper bag).

Q: How long can I reuse my disposable N95?

A: As long as the integrity of the mask is not compromised and you have followed the appropriate doffing and storage procedures, the mask can safely be worn for several hours and multiple shifts if not wet or distorted, not touched while delivering patient care, and not involved in an aerosol-generating procedure (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hcwcontrols/recommendedguidanceextuse.html>)

Q: Can I reuse my PAPR hood?

A: Yes, as long as you follow specific doffing and cleaning procedures. It is important that you inspect you PAPR hood each time you prepare to use it. If you find any breeches, you should obtain a new hood. You should also store your PAPR in a manner in which it will not be damaged.