



Australian Government
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

Engage
Empower
Safeguard



Quality Assessors Monitoring Group

Update on IPC and controls July 2022
s.22(1)(a)(ii), Infectious Diseases physician

1800 951 822
agedcarequality.gov.au





Controls

Engage
Empower
Safeguard

- Are applied to
 - (1) Reduce introduction of transmissible infection into facility
 - (2) Reduce spread of transmissible infection in the facility
- No single control is 100% effective
- Controls
 - P2/N95 masks >> surgical
 - Eyewear protection
 - Hand hygiene
 - Physical distancing
 - Density
 - RATS



PPE N95

Type	Image	Makes and Models	Fit test pass rate (n=2,161)	Useability and comfort (n=378)	Reports of issues limiting respirator use
Semi-rigid cup		cupped particulate respirator and surgical mask 1860 or 1860S (3M)	65%	Lowest	Highest
flat-fold cup		particulate respirator DE2322 (BYD Care)	96%	In between	In between
duckbill type		ProShield (BSN Medical) or Fluidshield surgical masks (Halyard)	59%	In between	In between
three-panel flat-fold		Aura 9320A+ particulate respirator (3M)	32%	Highest	Lowest



Australian Government
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

N95 respirators: quantitative fit test pass rates and usability and comfort assessment by health care workers

Irene Ng^{1,2} , Benjamin Kave¹, Fiona Begg¹, Charles R Bodas¹, Reny Segal^{1,2}, Daryl Williams^{1,2} 

Masks – Preventing skin irritation

Engage
Empower
Safeguard

Do

- Use mild skin cleanser or micellar water
- Moisturise regularly

Avoid

- If dry skin, avoid toners
- If acne prone, avoid greasy creams
- If sensitive skin, avoid fragranced products or anti-ageing products containing glycolic acids or retinoids

Around mask use

- Moisturise 30 m + before using mask (reduces friction and lubricates)



Australian Government
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE
OF DERMATOLOGISTS



SKIN HEALTH
INSTITUTE

Occupational Dermatology
Research and Education Centre

Keep your face healthy during COVID-19

Tips to avoid skin problems and allow you to keep wearing a mask

Masks – Skin conditions

Engage
Empower
Safeguard

Conditions

Contact dermatitis

Acne

Pressure injuries

Itchy skin

Pressure urticaria

Exacerbation of underlying skin conditions

Various approaches

Itch, irritation -Try different types of masks

Pressure, friction - Add layers of protection e.g. gauze or hydrocolloid dressing (caution- can affect fit check), compress

Avoid certain products

Specific treatments



Australian Government
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission



Keep your face healthy during COVID-19

Tips to avoid skin problems and allow you to keep wearing a mask



RAT

- **Screening (detect asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic infection)**
- **Imperfect test (will miss 1 in 4 infections)**
- **If symptoms and negative RAT**
 - PCR testing is gold standard
 - Multiplex -> test for flu A and B, COVID-19
- **After COVID-19 infection, can remain positive for weeks**



Ng I, Kave B, Begg F, Bodas CR, Segal R, Williams D. N95 respirators: quantitative fit test pass rates and usability and comfort assessment by health care workers. Med J Aust. 2022 Jul 18;217(2):88-93.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.5694/mja2.51585>

Australian Commission of Safety and Quality in Healthcare. Keep your face healthy during COVID-19.

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/keep-your-face-healthy-during-covid-19>

