

PPE Guidance for Medical Staff



Guidance for N95 Respirator Use & Fit-Testing

Healthcare worker infection rates indicate that the current PPE guidelines and the **proper use of PPE** are keeping our staff safe. A refresher on PPE use & practices can be found on the [IPAC website](#).



N95 Fit-Test

For those **staff who perform aerosol generating medical procedures** on influenza-like illness (including COVID-suspected or confirmed) patients, N95 respirators are required.

Fit-testing for N95 respirators must occur **every two years**.

For a list of FAQs and what to expect during your fit-test, please click [here](#).

Booking Your Fit-Test

Two options:

- Staff may book a timeslot at VGH by accessing Employee Safety [here](#).
- Employee Safety is holding sessions twice a week at **VGH Doctor's Residence - Room 124 (Monday and Friday from 9AM-2:45PM)**.

A list of alternate fit-test locations at VCH can be found [here](#).

To check your fit-test status, contact POSH.COVID@UBC.CA. For additional information on fit-testing, contact **Ben Loosley, Occupational Hygienist**.

PPE Demo

Interested in a **PPE donning & doffing demo**? Have any PPE related questions?

Please contact TBQIRegionalSupportTeam@vch.ca to book a session! This is available for both medical residents & VCH physicians.

Updated Respiratory Protection Standard and Respiratory Protection Program

These changes align us more closely with the province. These documents can be found on the [fit-testing and respirators](#) page of the intranet.

Key updates include:

- Identified focus departments (**Emergency, FMO, ICU, MI and RT**) **must maintain staff fit-test compliance** due to high risk of airborne infectious agents in their work.
- Fit-testing is now offered through Employee Safety, and through internal department fit-testers.
- **All departments requiring fit-testing (as identified through a risk assessment) must have a department fit-tester.** Training is provided by Employee Safety.

FAQ: What if I've already been fit-tested?

You're all set!

Hot Tip: Employee Safety keeps track of fit-test results, so if you cannot recall what respirator you were fitted for previously, contact POSH.COVID@UBC.CA.

If the department doesn't have the respirator you fitted on, reach out to the department manager and ask them to order the specific type of respirator.

FAQ: What if I am working at a non-VCH site?

Please reach out to the department fit-tester or your local health authority Workplace Health team for an N95 respirator fit-test.

