



# When to use a **surgical face mask** or **FFP3 respirator**

When caring for patients with **suspected or confirmed COVID-19**, all healthcare workers need to – prior to any patient interaction – assess the infectious risk posed to themselves and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to minimise that risk.

## When to use a surgical face mask



**In cohorted area (but no patient contact)**

### For example:

Cleaning the room, equipment cleaning, discharge patient room cleaning, etc

### PPE to be worn

- Surgical face mask (along with other designated PPE for cleaning)

**Close patient contact (within one metre)**

### For example:

Providing patient care, direct home care visit, diagnostic imaging, phlebotomy services, physiotherapy, etc

### PPE to be worn

- Surgical face mask
- Apron
- Gloves
- Eye protection (if risk of contamination of eyes by splashes or droplets)

## When to use an FFP3 respirator



**When carrying aerosol generating procedures (AGP) on a patient with possible or confirmed COVID-19**

**In high risk areas where AGPs are being conducted (eg: ICU)**

### The AGP list is:

- Intubation, extubation and related procedures such as manual ventilation and open suctioning
- Tracheotomy/tracheostomy procedures (insertion/open suctioning/removal)
- Bronchoscopy
- Surgery and post-mortem procedures involving high-speed devices
- Some dental procedures (such as high-speed drilling)
- Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV) such as Bi-level Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP) and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure ventilation (CPAP)
- High-Frequency Oscillating Ventilation (HFOV)
- High Flow Nasal Oxygen (HFNO), also called High Flow Nasal Cannula
- Induction of sputum

### PPE to be worn

- FFP3 respirator
- Long sleeved disposable gown
- Gloves
- Disposable eye protection

### Always fit check the respirator

## REMEMBER

- PPE should be put on and removed in an order that minimises the potential for self-contamination
- The order for PPE removal is gloves, hand hygiene apron or gown, eye protection, hand hygiene, surgical face mask or FFP3 respirator, hand hygiene

**These images are for illustrative purposes only. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.**