

# Madison County Department of Emergency Medical Services

## Standard Operating Guideline



<b>Title</b>	<b>N95 Masks</b>
<b>Number</b>	042
<b>Adoption Date</b>	1/1/07
<b>Revision Date</b>	
<b>Approved by</b>	Lewis Jenkins, EMS Director



### Purpose:

To provide Madison County Emergency Medical Services with N-95 respirator requirements for the protection from air born particles carrying the Tuberculosis and Avian Flu Viruses.

### Policy:

#### 1. Respirator Inspection & Maintenance

- a. **Inspection** - Your respirator should be inspected before each use, and after each use the mask should be discarded. During your inspection, check the condition of the face piece, straps, and filter. If any part of the mask is worn, used, or defective, replace immediately. Respirators, including Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, maintained for emergency use, must be inspected monthly. A record documenting the inspection date, name of inspector and findings must be kept.
- b. **Cleaning** – The N-95 paper filter is designed for single use only. After the filter is removed from the protective package and after the mask is used it should be disposed of. If exposed to a hazardous atmosphere the mask should be disposed of in a hazardous bio bag.
- c. **Maintenance** – The respirators are to be maintained according to manufacturer's recommendations. Respirator parts for different brands, e.g. Survival or 3M, are not interchangeable.

#### 2. Fit-Tests and Checks

- a. Fit-testing and fit-checks are important to ensure that there is a good seal between the face and respirator face piece. For respirators which require a gas tight seal, beard growth is not permitted. A fit-test is conducted when a respirator is first issued. In regards to the N-95 mask fit test will be conducted for each brand or style of mask and then re-fitted each year.
- b. Employees using N-95 respirators for protection against hazardous atmospheres will need to attend annual training and fit-testing. A [confidential medical questionnaire](#) is also required for mandatory N-95 use. Current N-95 users should follow instructions on questionnaire regarding re-submitting this form. Employees wearing the N-95 respirators for protection against hazardous atmospheres are required to attend a training session and complete a confidential medical questionnaire. However, users are required to submit a [Filtering Face Piece Approval form](#)
- c. Disposable respirators should never be shared; it is a single use only.

