




**THE CITY OF LONDON
DENTAL SCHOOL**

**University
of Bolton**
Teaching Intensive, Research Informed

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Respirator Face Fit Tester



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Respiratory Protective Equipment at Work

AIMS:

- Review the different types of RPE available in the workplace
- Explain latest concepts in RPE protocols in relation to protection against Covid-19
- Review the procedure involved in qualitative face fit testing

OBJECTIVES

- Recall the options on types of RPE suitable for work in the dental surgery
- Appreciate the need for respiratory protection against airborne viruses
- Identify your further learning needs


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Respiratory Protective Equipment RPE

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Safety?

• Moria refugee camp

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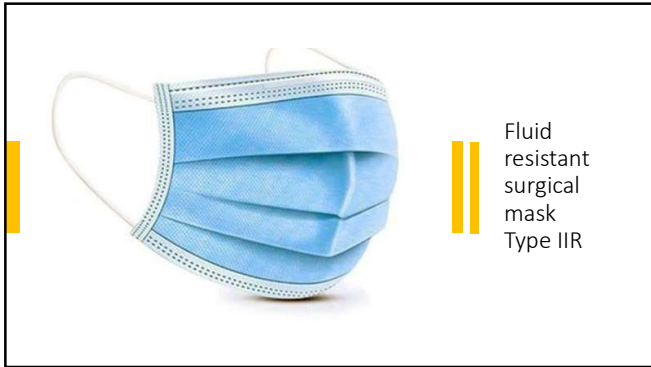
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Fluid resistant surgical mask Type IIR

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What the law says


- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- COSHH Regulations 2002
- Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012
- Control of Lead at Work Regulations 2002
- Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017
- Confined Spaces Regulations 1997
- Personal Protective Equipment at work Regulations 1992
- These Regulations are supported by Approved Codes of Practice, ACOPs

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Health & Safety Executive states:

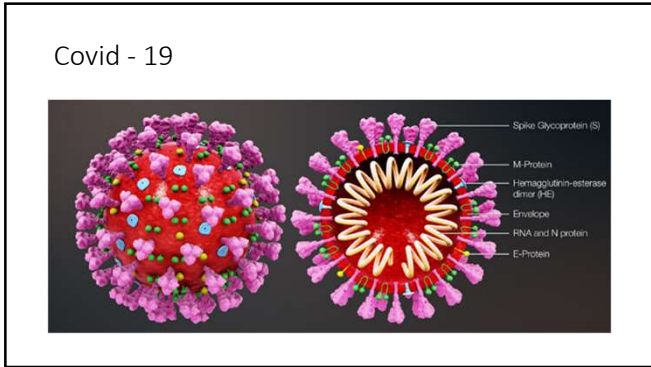
- RPE must be adequate and suitable
- Adequate:
 - It is right for the hazard and reduces exposure to the level required to protect the wearer's health.
- Suitable
 - It is right for the wearer, task and environment, such that the wearer can work freely and without additional risks due to the RPE.



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Selecting RPE that is adequate and suitable

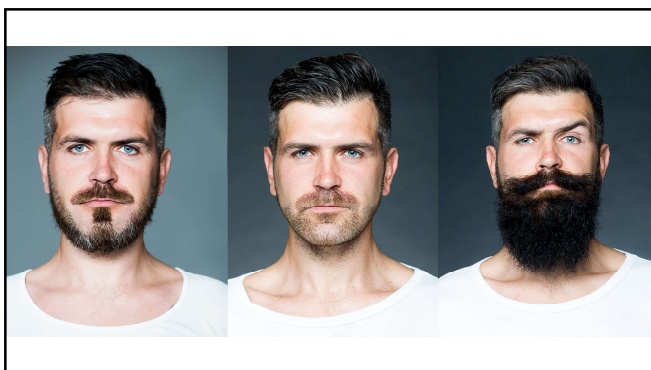
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Fit testing RPE


- Compatibility test between the wearer and the mask and gives a quantitative measurement known as a fit factor
- Fit Factor: is a measure of how many times cleaner the air inside the mask is compared to air outside the mask
- Minimum Fit Factors:
 - 1) At least 2000 for full face mask
 - 2) At least 100 for a half mask reusable
 - 3) At least 100 for a filtering facepiece FFP1, FFP2, FFP3



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Fit testing RPE

- Quantitative
- Qualitative



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The sensitivity test



- Denatonium Benzoate 'Bitrex' sensitivity
- Saccharin sweet sensitivity

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Denatonium benzoate (Lidocaine benzyl benzoate)

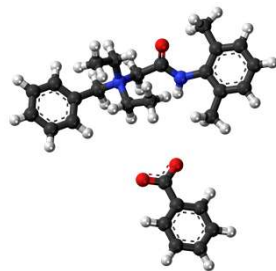
- Drop a thimble-full of Bitrex into an Olympic swimming pool and you can detect the bitterness in those two and a half million litres of water. But despite this bitterness, Bitrex is itself totally harmless. It won't make you sick or ill, it just tastes so bitter that you will want to spit it out – fast.



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Denatonium

- Denatonium, usually available as denatonium benzoate is the most bitter chemical compound known to man.
- It was discovered in 1958 during research on local anaesthetics .
- Used as aversive agent (bitterant). Denatonium is used in denatured alcohol, antifreeze, preventive nail biting preparations, respirator mask fit-testing, animal repellents, liquid soaps, Nintendo Switch game cards, and shampoos. It is not known to pose any long-term health risks.

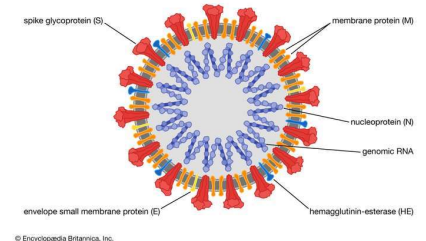


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Coronavirus

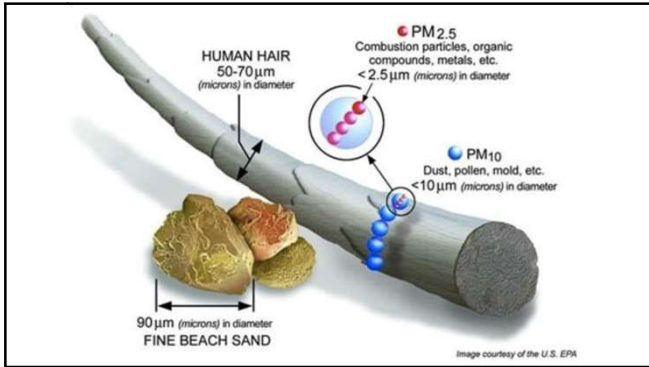
- 125nm diameter

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)

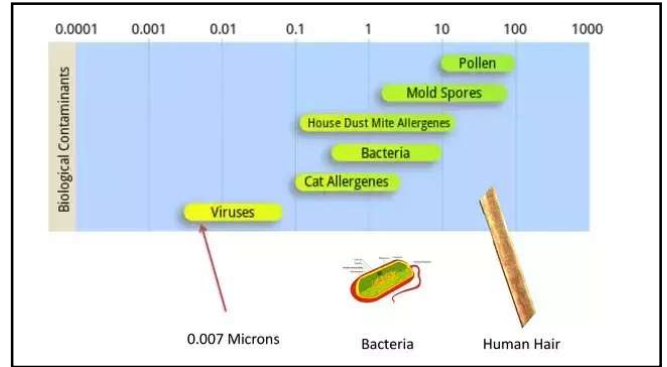


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The Maths

- Coronavirus 62.5nm radius or 125nm average diameter
- Surface area=49,087.385 nm² ≈ **4.9 x 10⁴ nm²**
- Denatonium molecule Surface Area 69.2 Å² = **0.692 nm²**
- Coronavirus: 6,000x larger than Denatonium

$$A_s = 4\pi r^2$$

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Assigned protection factor APF 20 and FFP3

What is it?

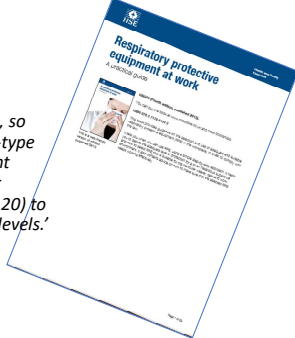
Where does it come from?

Why is it relevant now?

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RPE for Biological Agents

- *'When in an airborne state, micro-organisms can be classed as particles, so they can usually be removed by filter-type RPE. You should always use equipment fitted with the highest efficiency filter possible (protection factor of at least 20) to control exposure down to the lowest levels.'*
- HSG53 Fourth edition
- Health & Safety Executive



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Minimum Infective Dose

- Although coronavirus can survive up to 3 days on certain surfaces, the risk is only high depending on the virus load needed to catch COVID-19.
- The infective dose, or more specifically the ID50, is the estimated number of organisms or virus particles required to produce infection in 50% of normal adult humans exposed by a given route.
- Do we know if it's small or large? NO!


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Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL)

The upper limit on the acceptable concentration of a hazardous substance in workplace air for a particular material.

It is set by HSE and documented in EH40

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Substance – Toluene

- Measured airborne toluene concentration:
 - 350 ppm (parts per million) within an eight-hour time-weighted average (TWA).
- Toluene WEL: 50 ppm (from EH40).
- Required APF to reduce to WEL = $350/50 = 7$.
- Select RPE device with an APF above the required protection factor. In this case an APF of 10 will be required.

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What level of protection??

You should always use equipment fitted with the highest efficiency filter possible (protection factor of at least 20) to control exposure down to the lowest levels.'

Health & Safety Executive HSG53 2013

'If for any reason FFP3 masks are not available, we recommend using the FFP2 masks as a safe alternative but please note these should also be fit-tested.'

NHS England 28th March 2020

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Particle Respirators

- Protect against aqueous and oily aerosols, smoke and fine dust in the workplace. They do not protect against gases or vapours
- EN 149 standard
- FFP1, FFP2, FFP3 equate to P1, P2 and P3 particle filters.
- Defined as particle filtering face masks and fine dust respirators.



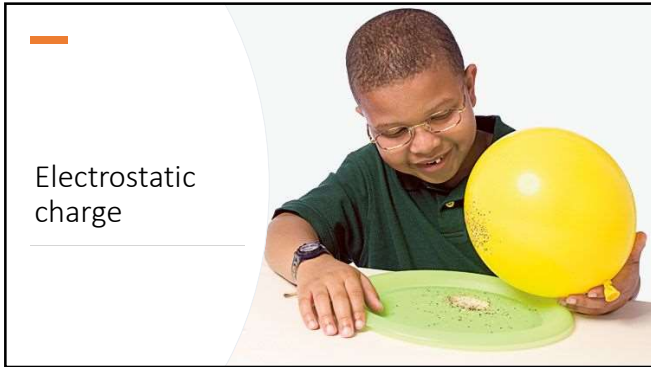
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How are particles filtered?

- Multiple filter material layers
- Layers functions:
 - Filtering
 - Stability
 - Tear resistance
 - Look and feel
- Optionally include an exhalation valve.



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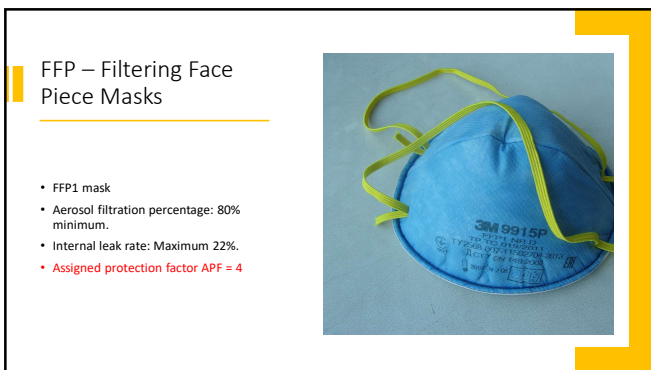
Electrostatic charge

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Exhalation Valve or not?

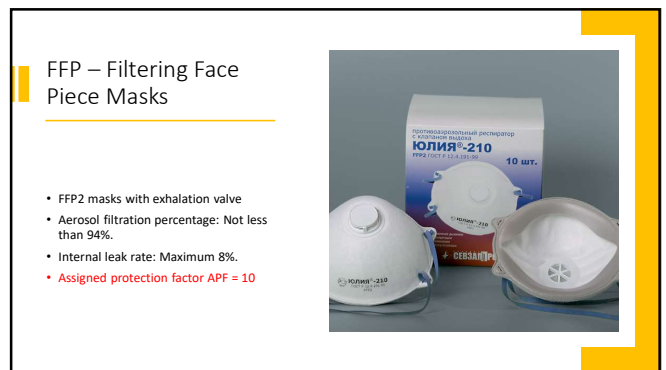
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FFP – Filtering Face Piece Masks

- FFP1 mask
- Aerosol filtration percentage: 80% minimum.
- Internal leak rate: Maximum 22%.
- Assigned protection factor APF = 4

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FFP – Filtering Face Piece Masks

- FFP2 masks with exhalation valve
- Aerosol filtration percentage: Not less than 94%.
- Internal leak rate: Maximum 8%.
- Assigned protection factor APF = 10

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FFP – Filtering Face Piece Masks

- FFP3 mask with exhalation valve
- Aerosol filtration percentage: Not less than 99%
- Internal leak rate: Maximum 2%
- Assigned protection factor APF = 20



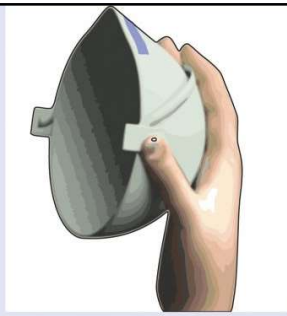
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Face fitting your respirator




- Pre-use seal check and preparation
- Facial hair – clean shaven
- Changes to face shape: weight loss or gain, surgery

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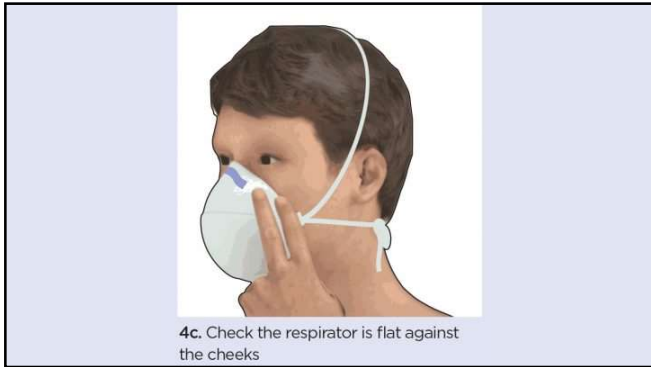
4a. Fully open the respirator. If there is a nose wire present, bend it into a curve

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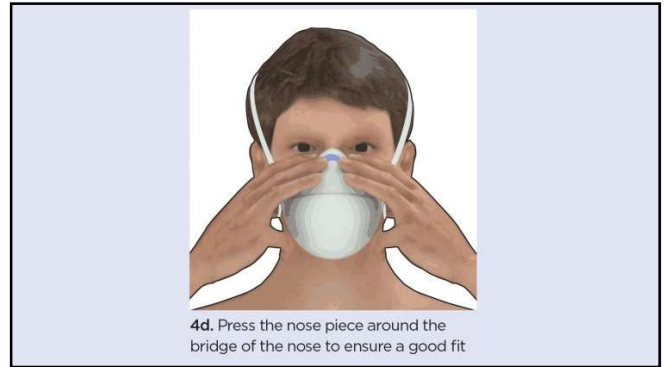


4b. Cup the respirator under your chin, then position the upper headband over the crown of your head and above your ears. Position the lower headband at the back of the head and below your ears

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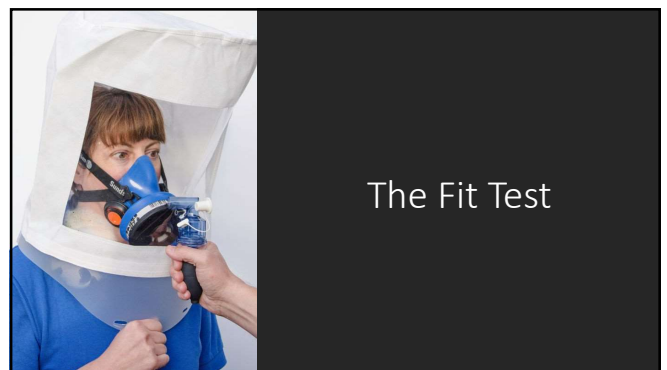
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Genuine or Fake?

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Spotting a Fake – Understanding FFP Markings

CE
FFP

European Standard EN149 requires a FFP to have the following markings:

For example:

Manufacturer name or logo 3M		Manufacturer model number 8810
European Standard number EN149:2001		Filtering facepiece class 'NR' - Single shift use 'R' - Re-usable FFP2 NR
European certification mark CE		Notified Body responsible for the product certification 0086

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Spotting a Fake – Understanding FFP Markings

NIOSH APR-FFR standard requires a FFP to have the following markings:

NIOSH N95

For example:

Manufacturer name or logo 3M		Manufacturer model number 1860
The word 'NIOSH' NIOSH		Manufacturer's lot number B11159
NIOSH Approval number TC-84A-0006		Filtering facepiece class N95

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Spotting a Fake – Understanding FFP Markings

Chinese Standard GB2626-2006 requires a KN95 to have the following markings:

KN95

For example:

Manufacturer name or logo 3M		Manufacturer model number 9505Z
Chinese Standard GB2626-2006		Filtering facepiece class KN95

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The CE Mark

The CE mark is a specific design and should appear as shown below:

Looks like a circle cut in half

Looks like a circle cut in half

The middle line of the 'E' does not extend to the centre of the circle

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EU Declaration of Conformity (DoC)

Example created to show content of a Module B EU Type Examination Certificate. This is a Mock Up – BSIF are NOT a Notified Body

Company Logo

Name and Address of manufacturer

Description & code of PPE

Declaration of Compliance with PPE Regulation

Details of Module B Certificate(s)

Details of Notified Body who issued Module B Certificate(s)

EU DoC must be provided with the product or be available to download or on request to the PPE manufacturer/supplier.

Title and Number of D of C

Image of Product (Note: not all DoCs will contain an image)

Declaration of Compliance with specific standards

Details of Notified Body who conduct QA Module Assessment

Details of who (person) issued D of C and date of issue

Courtesy of BSIF
www.bsif.co.uk
www.eu20a.org

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Genuine or Fake?

- No Standard number
- No manufacturer name, logo or model number
- No markings on packaging
- No EU CE mark and Notified Body number

- Unusual design
- No EU Notified Body Number
- No manufacturer name, logo or model number
- No 'N' or 'NR' marking

- No EU Notified Body Number
- No 'N' or 'NR' marking
- ISO-9001 is not relevant to RPE certification

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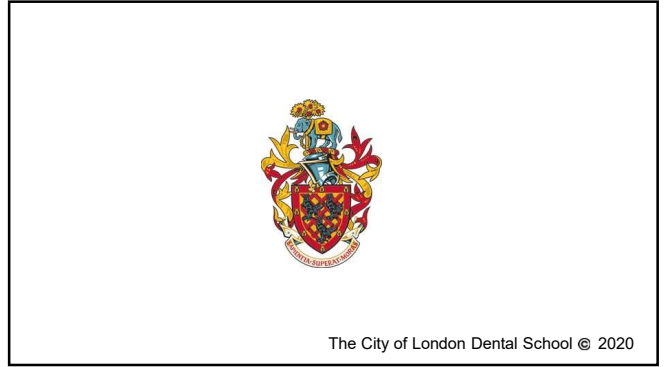
Useful Resources

- British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF): Fake PPE Certificates
<https://www.bsif.co.uk/campaigns-projects/fake-certificate/>
<https://www.bsif.co.uk/are-you-concerned-about-ppe-certificates/>
- European Safety Federation: COVID-19 Suspicious certificates for PPE
<https://www.eu-esf.org/covid-19/4513-covid-19-suspicious-certificates-for-ppe>
- HSE: Report a defective product
<https://www.hse.gov.uk/work-equipment-machinery/report-defective-product.htm>
- EU Notified Bodies
https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/hando/index.cfm?fuseaction=directive.notifiedbody&dir_id=155501

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