

GUIDANCE
The Personal Protective Equipment of Community Engagement Staff



DOC ID HHCMPA352020

Effective Date: December
22, 2020

Page 1 of 2

Purpose	<p>To provide guidance regarding required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) used by Community Engagement Specialists (CES), and the voluntary use of N95 respirators.</p> <p>All guidance is subject to change as additional information becomes available.</p>
Scope	<p>NYC Health + Hospitals Test and Trace Corps - Contact Tracers (Community Engagement Specialist and Supervisors)</p>
Process	<p>Operational Guidelines on the Usage of PPE</p> <p>Community Engagement Specialists are required to wear surgical or procedure mask, protective eyewear and gloves when working with cases and contacts, to prevent infection and spread of disease in accordance with public health guidelines.</p> <p>Staff who function in the field include Community Engagement Specialists and their Supervisors (who are required to wear this ensemble for field assignments). The ensemble noted above is sufficient for the scope of work that is conducted by CES.</p> <p>Required training for CES includes the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge and identification of required PPE• Proper donning and doffing techniques• Extended use and reuse guidance• Cleaning & disinfecting of eye protection and electronics and PPE storage• Basic infection prevention and control strategies, to prevent cross-contamination. <p>Upon the request of Community Engagement Specialists, they will be provided N95 respirators for <i>voluntary use</i>. In compliance with the Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA), CES will be provided with Appendix D, upon the receipt of N95 respirators for voluntary use.</p> <p>Fit testing is required for N95 respirator use. Fit testing is performed by a certified vendor annually, and the fit test results are submitted to the Occupational Health Services (OHS) Department of New York City Health + Hospitals, in compliance with OSHA and the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) standards.</p> <p>Individuals can either pass or fail the fit test. If an adequate fit cannot be achieved for any reason, including the presence of a beard (fail), the staff member will be required to wear a surgical or procedure mask as a part of their PPE ensemble.</p>

References	<p>N95 Usage https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/personal-protective-equipment-infection-control/n95-respirators-surgical-masks-and-face-masks</p> <p>Types of Masks https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/understanddifferenceinfographic-508.pdf</p> <p>Respirator Use FAQs https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirator-use-faq.html#:~:text=An%20N95%20FFR%20is%20a,includin%20bacteria%20and%20viruses.</p> <p>Appendix D https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134AppD</p> <p>Voluntary use of Respirators https://www.osha.gov/video/respiratory_protection/voluntaryuse_transcript.html</p>
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