

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STORAGE AND RE-USE OF N95 RESPIRATORS

The following instructions are adapted from the UMMC Unified PPE Guidance protocol.

STORAGE OF PREVIOUSLY WORN DISPOSABLE N95 RESPIRATORS

1. After removing your N95 respirator, visually inspect for contamination and distortion in shape/form. If the respirator is contaminated/wet, creased, or bent, the N95 should be discarded.
2. If the N95 respirator is **NOT visibly contaminated or distorted**, carefully store to avoid destroying the shape and consistency of the respirator.
3. The N95 respirator should be stored in a well-ventilated container (**i.e., paper bag**) with username & date written on the container.
4. Recommend writing username on an elastic strap, also.
5. A disposable N95 respirator can be worn for several hours and multiple shifts if not wet or distorted, not touched while delivering patient care, and not involved in an aerosol-generating procedure (CDC and NIOSH, pandemic response).

PROCESS TO REUSE DISPOSABLE N95 RESPIRATORS: Remove N95 respirator from storage bag and visually inspect for distortion. *If creased or bent do not re-use.*

Donning:

1. Perform hand hygiene.
2. Don gown and gloves.
3. Don the N-95 respirator.
4. **Ensure a tight seal** – if not a tight seal, the respirator cannot be re-used.
 - Perform a negative/positive fit check by doing the following:
 - No air should be felt around the perimeter while blowing out. **If you feel air coming out it is not a tight seal.**
 - When taking a small breath in, the respirator should pucker in slightly. If it does not, it is not re-usable.
5. Ensure the respirator is breathable. **If you are unable to breathe in the respirator**, the respirator cannot be re-used.
6. Don respirator with full faceshield or goggles over N95.