



CDC has released updated guidance for optimizing the supply of N95 respirators.

Updated April 3, 2020

## Summary of Updates as of April 2, 2020:

- [Conventional capacity strategies](#)
  - Edited the section on use of airborne infection isolation rooms (AIIRs) for aerosol-generating procedures performed on patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 patients.
  - Added language on FDA's Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) authorizing the use of certain NIOSH-approved respirator models in healthcare settings to the section on N95 alternatives.
- [Contingency capacity strategies](#)
  - Added a section on temporarily suspending annual fit testing following updated guidance from OSHA
  - Added more details in the extended use section.
- [Crisis capacity strategies](#)
  - Added language on the use of respirators approved under international standards and updated the tables.
  - Combined sections on limited re-use of N95 respirators for tuberculosis and then COVID-19 patients. Added more details surrounding limited re-use.

**Audience:** These considerations are intended for use by federal, state, and local public health officials, respiratory protection program managers, leaders in occupational health services and infection prevention and control programs, and other leaders in healthcare settings who are responsible for developing and implementing policies and procedures for preventing pathogen transmission in healthcare settings.

**Purpose:** This document offers a series of strategies or options to optimize supplies of disposable N95 filtering facepiece respirators (commonly called "N95 respirators") in healthcare settings when there is limited supply. It does not address other aspects of pandemic planning; for those, healthcare facilities can refer to [COVID-19 preparedness plans](#). The strategies are also listed in order of priority and preference in the [Checklist for Healthcare Facilities: Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators during the COVID-19 Response](#) in an easy-to-use format for healthcare facilities.

Please visit the **CDC link here for further review of the entire document and the updates:**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html#contingency>