Children's National

INSTITUTIONAL GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICY

SUBJECT: Fit Testing Policy for Rotating Residents **DATE EFFECTIVE:** July 1, 2022

POLICY: Evaluation **PAGE:** 1 of 2

I. PURPOSE:

To protect health care workers coming from outside institutions to work at Children's National Hospital (CH) from the exposure to coronavirus (COVID-19) and other infectious diseases requiring airborne precautions.

II. POLICY SCOPE:

The hospital ensures all rotating residents are prepared to use respiratory protection when caring for patients with infectious diseases requiring airborne protection either through use of a fit-tested N-95 mask or Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR). Rotating residents who are not fit-tested for the N-95 mask and do not have access to a PAPR will not be required to care for patients with infectious diseases requiring airborne protection.

III. DEFINITIONS:

N-95 mask: An N95 filtering facepiece respirator, commonly abbreviated N95 respirator, is a particulate-filtering facepiece respirator that meets the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) N95 classification of air filtration, meaning that it filters at least 95% of airborne particles.

Powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) is a personal protective equipment (PPE) consisting of a facepiece or hood, breathing tube, battery-operated blower, and particulate filters (HEPA only). A PAPR uses a blower to pass contaminated air through a HEPA filter, which removes the contaminant and supplies purified air to a facepiece.

Fit-testing A qualitative fit test (QLFT) relies on the user's ability to detect a particular taste, smell or irritant. A quantitative fit test (QNFT) can be used to fit test any tight-fitting respirator. It involves using an instrument to measure leakage around the face seal and produces a numerical result called a "fit factor."

Fit testing may be done using a qualitative test using Bitrex® or saccharin or a quantitative test using a PortaCount® or another appropriate instrument

IV. POLICY:

- Rotators fit-tested at their home institution on the same N95 mask stocked at CH can use their prior test results and do not need to be re-fit-tested at CH.
- All rotators at CH will be provided the fit testing schedule and encouraged to attend one of the sessions.
- All rotators will be requested to complete the PAPR training video during onboarding which will be provided in MedHub
- Rotators at Children's < 2 weeks and not fit-tested at their home institution for CH's N-95 mask will not be fit-tested at CH. They have 2 options.
    - Wear a PAPR
    - Do not care for a patient requiring an N-95 mask
- Rotators at CH > 2 weeks and not fit-tested in their home institution for CH's N- 95 mask have 4 options.
    - Attend one of CH fit-testing sessions
    - Wear a PAPR if not fit-tested or if failed fit-testing
    - Do not care for a patient requiring an N-95 mask
    - On a case-by-case basis, a limited number of appointments will be made available in Occupational Health for a rotator to be fit-tested.

V. APPROVAL

Approved by:



Vice Chair and DIO

5/8/2024
Date

VI. REVIEW OR REVISION DATE

Approved by the GMEC: June 15, 2022
Reviewed by GMEC: September 13, 2023
Reviewed and Approved by GMEC: September 13, 2023