

PURPOSE

To protect employees from expected respiratory hazards while working through the proper use of NIOSH approved air-purifying respirators.

STCVHA SOP FM-02.06

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

ANNUAL EDUCATION

PROCESS:

1. All duties within SCVHA have been evaluated for potential hazards.
2. NIOSH approved personal protective equipment (PPE) has been selected to protect the employee performing those duties, as outlined in [SOP FM-02.05 Personal Protective Equipment](#).
3. Staff requiring respiratory protection will be medically cleared by occupational health prior to being fit-tested and trained on the proper use and care of the equipment.
4. Staff receive fitting and training annually or as needed:
 - a. New duties may require new PPE, clearance and fitting
 - b. New clearance may be required for shortness of breath symptoms experienced while using the PPE, or if the employee experiences changes in cardiac or respiratory medical conditions.
 - c. New fit testing is recommended for physical changes such as facial injuries or surgeries, dental procedures or weight change of more than 20 pounds.
5. Staff inspect PPE prior to donning, check fit and function after donning, and clean or dispose of PPE after doffing.

EXPECTED HAZARDS:

BIOLOGIC: Infectious diseases may be transmitted through the air. When engineering controls do not prevent transmission, staff may be required to wear air-purifying respirators during close care with Veterans, especially when performing aerosolizing procedures. See Infection Prevention policies, procedures, precautions signs and [SharePoint](#) for details.

HAZARDOUS DRUGS: Handling some hazardous drugs requires respiratory protection, as noted on the [Hazardous Drug Assessment of Risk](#) worksheet.

THERE ARE NO EXPECTED HAZARDS ON THE ST. CLOUD VA CAMPUS THAT REQUIRE THE USE OF SUPPLIED AIR RESPIRATORS.

COMMON RESPIRATORS AT STCVHA:



- [3M 1804 and 1804S N95](#) Video demonstration of donning and doffing
- [Manufacturer's Instructions for use](#)
- [3M™ VFlex™ 1804 and 1804S Wear It Right Poster](#)



- [3M Versaflo PAPR Training](#)
- [Manufacturer's instructions for use](#)

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST

@ [FM Safety Email](#)

📞 320-252-1670 x6705

[STC Respiratory](#)

🌐 [Protection Program - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

RELATED FORMS

[FM-02.6A](#) NIOSH APPROVED AIR-PURIFYING RESPIRATORS USED IN THIS FACILITY

[FM-02.6B](#) USING RESPIRATORS WHEN NOT REQUIRED

[FM-02.6C](#) OSHA RESPIRATOR MEDICAL EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE