

FXX surgical mask and N-95 Respirators – a hospital epidemiologist and user perspective

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Surgical mask vs N95

- Droplet vs Airborne transmission
- Not absolute – aerosol generating procedures, host factors
- We use 3M molded n95 and Kimberly Clark duckbill N95 respirator

Challenges

- Discomfort – temperature, tightness
- Fit testing – convenience and expense
- Availability of sizes
- Proper use
- Contamination – self and environment

N95 Respiratory attributes to be tested

- Filtration ability **
- Comfort **
- Ease of proper use **
- Fluid resistance – less so
- Self contamination risks **

Current issues with 2 N95 types

- Availability and testing of each type
- HCW preference

Gaps or priorities

- Post-market surveillance
- Self-contamination
- Easier to implement - supply, fit testing and more comfortable use

Questions?

Thank you