

SAFETY PROGRAMS FACT SHEET

Respiratory Fit Testing

Introduction

The Department of Safety & Injury Prevention provides respiratory mask fit testing throughout Capital Health. There are scheduled appointment times at our offices in the QEII Bethune Building as well as arranged clinics at CDHA sites.

To arrange site clinics, we will be in contact with managers and employees to schedule times which work best for each department to ensure all applicable employees are fitted for respirators when required.

This includes new employees, employees whose card has expired, or staff who meet the following criteria as per the Respirator Protection Policy:

1. *employees that are exposed to aerosolized environments*
2. *exposed to tuberculosis patients*
3. *working in a negative air environment*

Rationale

- If respirator, mask or other breathing apparatus is required to safely perform work duties, all Capital Health employees must be fitted for the piece of equipment before use
- It is important to be proactive with getting employees fitted before a high risk situation arises where a high volume of employees need to be fitted immediately (high risk patient, harmful substances in air, etc.)
- In general, Capital Health requires all employees exposed to aerosolized environments, tuberculosis patients, or negative air environments to wear an N95 respirator

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How long does it take?

Process takes less than half an hour

Is the test invasive or uncomfortable?

Test is not invasive, requires wearing the respirator required for job task, and completing simple movements and tasks

Where do I go?

Individual appointments are arranged for the Safety Programs Department QEII Bethune Building 2nd floor. Clinics will be offered on a regular basis throughout the district and will be promoted through the Safety & Injury Prevention website; Capital News and the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Bulletin Boards

When might I need a respirator?

If the employee is exposed to substances that may cause discomfort, disease, irritation or other negative effects to the individual upon entry into the respiratory system, Capital Health requires the employee to use a respirator.

Contact

Safety & Injury Prevention

- Sherida Flemming
phone: 902-473-2313
email: sherida.flemming@cdha.nshealth.ca
- Ben Beaton
phone: 902-473-4033 (office)
902-456-8275 (cell)
email: ben.beaton@cdha.nshealth.ca