# N95 Use and Maintenance

There is a current worldwide shortage of N95 masks due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Therefore it is vital that we maximize the effectiveness and useful life of these resources.

# **CLEAN SHAVEN**

Ensure you are clean shaven prior to use. If not, the N95 will offer little to no protection against Coronavirus.

# GOOD HYGIENE

Always wash hands thoroughly before handling the N95. Do not touch the inside of the mask. If you need to adjust the mask, remove gloves and wash hands prior to touching

#### DONNING

Cup the outside of the mask, place over your face (metal band facing up), place the top strap toward the crown of your head, the bottom strap below your ears, mold the nosepiece and perform a user seal check.

#### USE

Do not touch the mask with contaminated gloves, keep the mask dry/minimize spraying aerosols in the immediate area, wear a reusable face shield to keep the mask clean.

### **DOFFING**

Remove outer gloves and contaminated PPE first. Remove inner gloves and thoroughly wash hands prior to removing N95. Use caution not to touch the inside of the mask.

#### **STORAGE**

When finished using, place the mask in a clean paper bag (the paper bag allows for the mask to dry out while keeping it clean). Label the bag with your name and store in a clean/safe area until needed again.

## WHEN TO DISCARD

Following manufacturer guidelines for number of reuses. If a mask doesn't state how many reuses; the CDC recommends replacing after 5 uses. Discard earlier if the mask becomes contaminated, saturated, damaged, or unable to pass a user seal check