



San Diego County

SHERIFF

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Sheriff

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TRAINING BULLETIN

Personal Protective Equipment for Staff

The San Diego Sheriff's Department has deployed our Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) that will allow us to facilitate public safety services during this critical time. The COOP will ensure that essential functions, such as security and medical services for inmates in our custody continue and personnel and resources are available to maintain normal operations.

In response to the threat of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department has implemented plans to continue to provide professional detention services in a safe and humane environment.

As first responders, we must continue to render medical aid to inmates. A tremendous amount of work is going into the effort to have personal protective equipment (PPE) readily available for you. This includes N95 masks, gloves, and gowns. Social distancing and regular hand washing should be practiced whenever possible.

COVID-19 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- **When should I wear gloves?**

Wear gloves when it can reasonably be anticipated that you might contact potentially infectious materials.

- **When should I wear a mask?**

For your protection, as well as for that of your friends and colleagues, masks are always to be worn while on duty in one of our facilities. This will provide a basic level of protection. A N95, or other approved respirator, can be worn if assigned to or working in select modules or housing units with some of our more vulnerable inmates.

- **When should I wear eye protection such as goggles or a face shield?**

Wear eye protection when activities could generate splashes or sprays of bodily fluids. Use of a face shield will help protect the mask and can allow for extended wear and use.

- **When should I wear a gown?**

Wearing a gown is rarely needed. A gown is recommended for health staff when doing direct procedures, or for those individuals assigned to a cleaning crew (e.g. cleaning day rooms, sanitizing individual rooms of person under investigation (PUI), or COVID-19 patients).

This Training Bulletin was prepared by the Medical Services Division and Detention In-Service Training Unit. If you have expertise in a particular subject and would like to write a training bulletin, please contact the Detention In Service Training unit at [REDACTED]



PPE AT A GLANCE

Area of Operation	Activity	Recommendation
Intake	Sworn staff member conducting pre-screening.	At a minimum, N95 mask and gloves. <i>As needed, don gown, goggles or face shield.</i>
	When arrestee arrives at facility.	Provide a barrier mask to arrestee.
Housing Modules (Safety Checks)	Non-quarantine modules.	Mask & gloves.
	Quarantine modules.	At minimum, N95 mask and gloves. <i>Eye protection as needed.</i>
	Entrance into medical isolation module or isolation cells.	At minimum, N95 mask, and gloves. <i>As needed don gown & eye protection.</i>
	Positive COVID-19 Isolation Cells and/or modules.	Gown, N95 mask, eye protection, and gloves.
High Risk Medical Module	Sworn staff entering module at any time.	N95 mask and gloves.
Inmate Transportation Runs	Sworn staff transporting inmate	At minimum, N95 mask, and gloves. <i>As needed don gown & eye protection.</i>
	Transported inmate	Issue a clean barrier or N95 mask to the inmate.

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Understanding the Difference



	Barrier	N95 Respirator
Testing and Approval	Cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Evaluated, tested, and approved by NIOSH as per the requirements in 42 CFR Part 84
Intended Use and Purpose	Fluid resistant and provides the wearer protection against large droplets, splashes, or sprays of bodily or other hazardous fluids. Protects the patient from the wearer's respiratory emissions.	Reduces wearer's exposure to particles including small particle aerosols and large droplets (only non-oil aerosols).
Face Seal Fit	Loose-fitting	Tight-fitting
Fit Testing Requirement	No	Yes
User Seal Check Requirement	No	Yes. Required each time the respirator is donned (put on)
Filtration	Does NOT provide the wearer with a reliable level of protection from inhaling smaller airborne particles and is not considered respiratory protection	Filters out at least 95% of airborne particles including large and small particles
Leakage	Leakage occurs around the edge of the mask when user inhales	When properly fitted and donned, minimal leakage occurs around edges of the respirator when user inhales
Use Limitations	Disposable. Discard after each patient encounter.	Ideally should be discarded after each patient encounter and after aerosol-generating procedures. It should also be discarded when it becomes damaged or deformed; no longer forms an effective seal to the face; becomes wet or visibly dirty; breathing becomes difficult; or if it becomes contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

****Per the CDC- Face masks (barrier protection) are an acceptable alternative if or when respirators are not available.***

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