

Ministry of Health

Office of the Associate Deputy Minister,
Pandemic Response and Recovery

56 Wellesley Street West, 10th Floor
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3
Tel.: 416 212-4433

Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du sous-ministre associé
Intervention contre la pandémie et relance

56, rue Wellesley Ouest, 10^e étage
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3
Tél. : 416 212-4433

**Ministry of Health**

Office of the Associate Deputy Minister,
Health Services

777 Bay Street, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2C8
Tel.: 416-212-7067

Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du sous-ministre associé
Services de santé

777, rue Bay, 7^e étage
Toronto, ON M5G 2C8
Tél. : 416-212-7067

March 9, 2022

MEMORANDUM TO: Health Service Providers

FROM: Alison Blair, Associate Deputy Minister, Pandemic Response and Recovery, Ministry of Health
Melanie Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Services, Ministry of Health

SUBJECT: N95 Respirators

With recent changes to [Chief Medical Officer of Health Directives 1, 4 and 5](#), the use of N95 respirators has increased across the province's health system. The Ontario government has secured a long-term supply of the NIOSH-certified N95 3M™ Aura™ Health Care Particulate Respirator and Surgical Mask 1870+ model from the 3M production line in Brockville, Ontario. This supply will support the needs of Ontarians – including health service providers – over the next five years and beyond. The province has also taken steps to ensure that, through the pandemic emergency stockpile, there is a robust supply of 1870+ available to support the needs of the health system and has recently increased purchases from the 3M contract to ensure there are no shortages.

If your organization has not yet transitioned to the 3M 1870+, we strongly encourage you to use the 1870+ as the model of first choice for all new fit testing and for re-fit testing in your organization. We recommend that you fit test all applicable staff as soon as possible. Please note that, due to constraints in the global supply of non-1870+ N95 respirators, orders for non-1870+ 3M models might not be available from the pandemic stockpile. For the small percentage of staff unable to fit test to the 1870+ model, we recommend fit testing to a non-3M smaller sized N95 respirator, available through the pandemic stockpile.

COVID-19 Critical Supplies and Equipment Data Submission

The province is monitoring the use and demand for N95s and all other critical products through the COVID-19 Critical Supplies and Equipment Data Submission process. We would like to remind you that the [Minister's Order](#) is still in effect and that your participation and reporting into this system is mandatory and is critical in helping the province plan for and monitor PPE inventory and demand across the system. Please visit <https://www.ontariohealth.ca/COVID-19/COVID-supplies> for further information.

How to Order N95 Respirators

Health service provider organizations can request N95 1870+ respirators (for regular supply and for fit testing purposes) through their shared services organization or through the [Critical PPE Intake Form](#). Organizations can refer to additional information on the processes to request or exchange N95s in Appendix #1.

If placing orders via the [Critical PPE Intake Form](#), we encourage organizations to plan ahead to avoid rush ordering. Orders will be processed in sequence and based on criticality (organizations facing emergency situations).

Fit Testing Support

Fit testing is a critical component of the transition to new models of N95 respirators. Should you require additional fit testing support, the attached list includes organizations that may be able to assist you (see Appendix #2).

Thank you for your continued commitment to the safety of patients, frontline workers and all health care providers.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Original signed by

Alison Blair
Associate Deputy Minister
Pandemic Response and Recovery

Melanie Fraser
Associate Deputy Minister
Health Services

c: Renu Kulendran, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
Dr. Catherine Zahn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Carlene Alexander, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Doug Kent, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
Kyle MacIntyre, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Peter Kaftarian, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Susan Picarello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Jacqueline Cureton, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Matthew Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Health
Mark Walton, Senior Vice President, COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Ontario Health
Dov Klein, Vice President, Value-Based Care, Ontario Health
Anna Greenberg, Chief Regional Officer, Toronto and East, Ontario Health
Susan deRyk, Chief Regional Officer, Central and West, Ontario Health
Brian Ktytor, Chief Regional Officer, North, Ontario Health

Appendix #1: Instructions for Health Service Providers on How to Access N95 1870+ Model

Please use the distribution channels below to access the provincial supply of 1870+ respirators. If your organization has a large stockpile of other respirators, we can work with you to determine how to convert your stock.

Distribution Channels:

To support immediate delivery of these respirators, ordering and distribution of the 1870+ model will follow current Ontario PPE pandemic supply processes during 2021/22:

1. Organizations that are served through a shared services organization (SSO) owned (e.g. Hospital Logistics Inc. or Healthcare Materials Management Services) or managed warehouse (e.g. Shared Services West through Cardinal) will receive this product through the standard SSO ordering and delivery methods.
2. Organizations without an SSO-managed warehouse will order this product along with other pandemic PPE supplies through the current PPE pandemic order request process.
3. Emergency supply: Organizations can continue to request emergency N95 supply through the current process for other N95 models that are available through the Ministry Emergency Operations Centre.

Appendix #2: Fit Testing Supports

Organization	Phone Number	Email if Applicable
1 Contact Safety Training & Consulting	416-822-5925	info@1contactsafety.ca
Act First Safety	416-283-7233	safety@actfirstsafety.ca
Active Training Solutions	905-767-8447	
ACUTE Environmental	519-747-5075	info@acuteservices.com
AEC Safety Solutions	519-746-3518	
Algonquin Safety Training	705-223-0120	admin@algsafety.ca
Barantas Inc.	1-855-FUL-SAFE	info@barantas.ca
Best Management by Safety Training & Consulting Ltd.	226-777-7385	
Bluewater First Aid	519-490-4738	info@bluewaterfirstaid.ca
BULLIVANT Health + Safety	289-779-6760	
Canadian Safety Group	905-321-9901 or 905-401-0088	info@canadiansafetygroup.com

CPR in London	519-671-6713	cprbyhsf@gmail.com
FIT Mask Fit Testing	519-200-2567	fitmaskfittesting@gmail.com
Hamisco Industrial Sales	519-652-9800	sales@hamisco.com
Hazmasters	877-747-7117	connect@hazmasters.com
HeartZAP Safety Training & Equipment	1-866-764-8488	
H.E.L.P. Safety Services	905-821-8928	help@helpsafetyservices.com
Hot Zone Training Consultants Inc.	1-888-898-8966	info@hotzonetraining.com
Industrial Education Cooperative	519-383-1222	
Industrial Safety Trainers	1-800-219-8660	
Keen and Associates	905-962-3258	info@keenandassociates.com
KMC Safety Solutions	519-521-2744	info@kmcsafetysolutions.ca
Levitt-Safety	1-888-453-8488	csr@levitt-safety.com
Majors McGuire	519-944-9999	info@majorsmcguire.com
Northern Safety Solutions	705-524-8189	info@nss4.com
Occupational Health and Safety Consultants Inc.	519-758-0146	admin@ohsconsultants.ca
OSG	1-800-815-9980	info@osg.ca
Paramount Safety Consulting	905-661-7233	info@paramountsafetyconsulting.com
Restoration Safety	416-799-9614	
Rubicon Safety	London: 519-551-9383 Burlington: 416-999-9304	
Safety Guys Workplace Safety Trainers	613-549-6941	
SOS First Aid	905-844-9813	info@sosfirstaid.ca
Spark Safety Solutions	844-267-8600	office@sparksafety.ca
STS Health and Safety Training & Consultants Inc.	416-635-7800	info@stscanada.com
Synergy Gateway Inc.	416-286-1080	info@synergy.gateway.com

Test Me Ontario	519-496-2127	julia@testmeontario.com
TGH Safety Consulting	519-383-7655	ccooper@tghsafety.com
Workplace Law Consulting	416-930-6180	wpl@workplacelawconsulting.com
Workplace Safety & Prevention Services	905-614-1400	customercare@wsps.ca
Worksite Safety	866-756-5552	