

Unsuccessful Fit Test of an P2/N95 Mask - Flowchart

The primary focus of fit testing is staff safety by reducing staff exposure to infectious environments.

Immediate Action

Staff member cannot be tested or fails fit test of all P2/N95 masks allocated.

Staff member contacts line manager immediately and **MUST NOT RETURN TO A HIGH RISK AREA until 'return to work' or 'redeployment' is determined following the steps below.**

Line Manager to contact their Operations Manager and Roster Manager with the result immediately to manage any impact on staff numbers.

A staff member who fails fit testing **during their shift** may be issued a PAPR until retesting has occurred **ONLY** on Executive Director approval.¹ PAPR can be accessed by contacting the Infection Prevention team. An online information session for PAPRs must be conducted before use.² An information sheet will be provided at the point of issue by the IP team.

Temporary redeployment options must be explored.

Where exceptional circumstances³ exist, line management must be made aware including Operations Managers and Divisional Directors (or equivalent). Ongoing use of PAPR must be approved by an Executive Director¹

Fit testing results to be reviewed by Fit Testing program staff to identify any potential improvements in fitting. This includes analysis of fit test data to identify highest scoring mask to be re-tested.

Staff member to be retested within 48 hrs or as soon as reasonably practicable. Fit testing program staff will contact the line manager to coordinate retesting.

Retesting successful.

Staff member return to work

Retest not successful (2nd time occurring).

Exceptional circumstances^{3 & 5}

Staff issued with alternative RPE (i.e. PAPR) are to conduct a Fit Check prior to re-entering high risk area. Fit checking information⁴ sheets are located on the COVID19 microsite.

Staff member return to work

No exceptional circumstances

Staff member receives a letter regarding **temporary redeployment** from Line Manager. (template available from Respiratory Protection Program Administrator)

Staff member to be temporarily redeployed

¹ Only the Executive Director of Nursing & Midwifery and Chief Medical Officer can approve PAPR allocation (temporarily or permanently) for nursing and allied health staff, and medical and non-clinical staff respectively. After-hours, this will be the Executive Director on-call.

² <https://cleanspacetechnology.com/health/resources/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPY9cylzLUus>

³ Exceptional circumstances arise when the reassignment of staff is not practical or safe. i.e. Specialist skill set in a specific environment.

⁴ <https://coronavirus.wh.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/P2-N95-Respirator-Mask-Principles-of-Fit-Checking-QRG-18.02.2020.pdf>

⁵ Exceptional circumstances for staff who have facial hair for religious or cultural reasons will follow the same process outlined above. Where their skill set is critical to the capability of Western Health medical and clinical service delivery, their specific situation will be considered on a case by case basis.

N.B. Fit check fundamentals are the same across most masks. The fit check guidance attached at this link is relevant for re-usable masks.