

Choosing the right mask

A guide to ASTM barrier protection standards

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Welcome



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Objectives

- 1 Outline the two mask classifications
- 2 Review the risks of improper mask use
- 3 Describe the purpose of ASTM and its mask selection standards
- 4 Overview the three ASTM barrier protection levels
- 5 Know the “4 Fs” of mask selection

About Cardinal Health

Recognized leader in healthcare supply chain transformation

- Top ranking for transforming the healthcare value chain to meet new challenges around costs, revenues and outcomes

Unparalleled understanding of healthcare value chain

- Supplier and leading manufacturer of med/surg products
- Leader in providing supply chain services with 40+ years experience

Expertise in PPE equipment for the OR

- 722 million units of surgical and medical products sold annually across the US¹

Clinical support team ready to serve you

- 2,500 clinicians throughout Cardinal Health
- Dedicated clinical mask team to help you with staff education



Why is choosing the right mask important?

- 1. Risk of facial exposure to blood and fluids**
- 2. Clinical emphasis on reducing healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)**
- 3. Renewed focus on patient and staff safety/quality initiatives**

Two mask classifications

1. Procedure masks

- Three or four layers of construction
- Two ear loops secure mask to face
- Not suitable for OR
- Used on hospital floors, isolation, sterile core and processing, labor and delivery, ER and ICU



2. Surgical masks

- Three or four layers of construction
- Two straps secure mask to face
- Primarily used by OR staff
- Intended for a high risk of fluid exposure



Surgical N95 respirator

- Evacuate all surgical smoke generated by energy-generating devices during operative or other invasive procedures:
 - ESUs, lasers, ultrasonic scalpels/dissectors
- Wear respiratory protective equipment as secondary protection against residual surgical smoke
- Also wear during higher-risk, aerosol-generating procedures on patients with known or suspected aerosol transmittable diseases
 - Tuberculosis
 - Varicella
 - Rubeola²



Q1 - What masks are you using for ECU procedures today?

- A. I don't know
- B. Surgical Masks with ties
- C. Procedure Masks with loops
- D. N95 Respirator

How has the purpose of masks evolved?

- **From protecting the patient...**
 - Originally developed to minimize the risk of patient wound infection due to microorganisms transmitted from clinicians (coughs, sneezes, droplets)
- **...to protecting both patient *and* clinicians.**
 - New and drug-resistant pathogens transmitted by patient blood or other bodily fluids
 - Smoke plume can contain toxic chemicals and other irritants
 - Particulate contaminants include dust expelled by high-speed devices

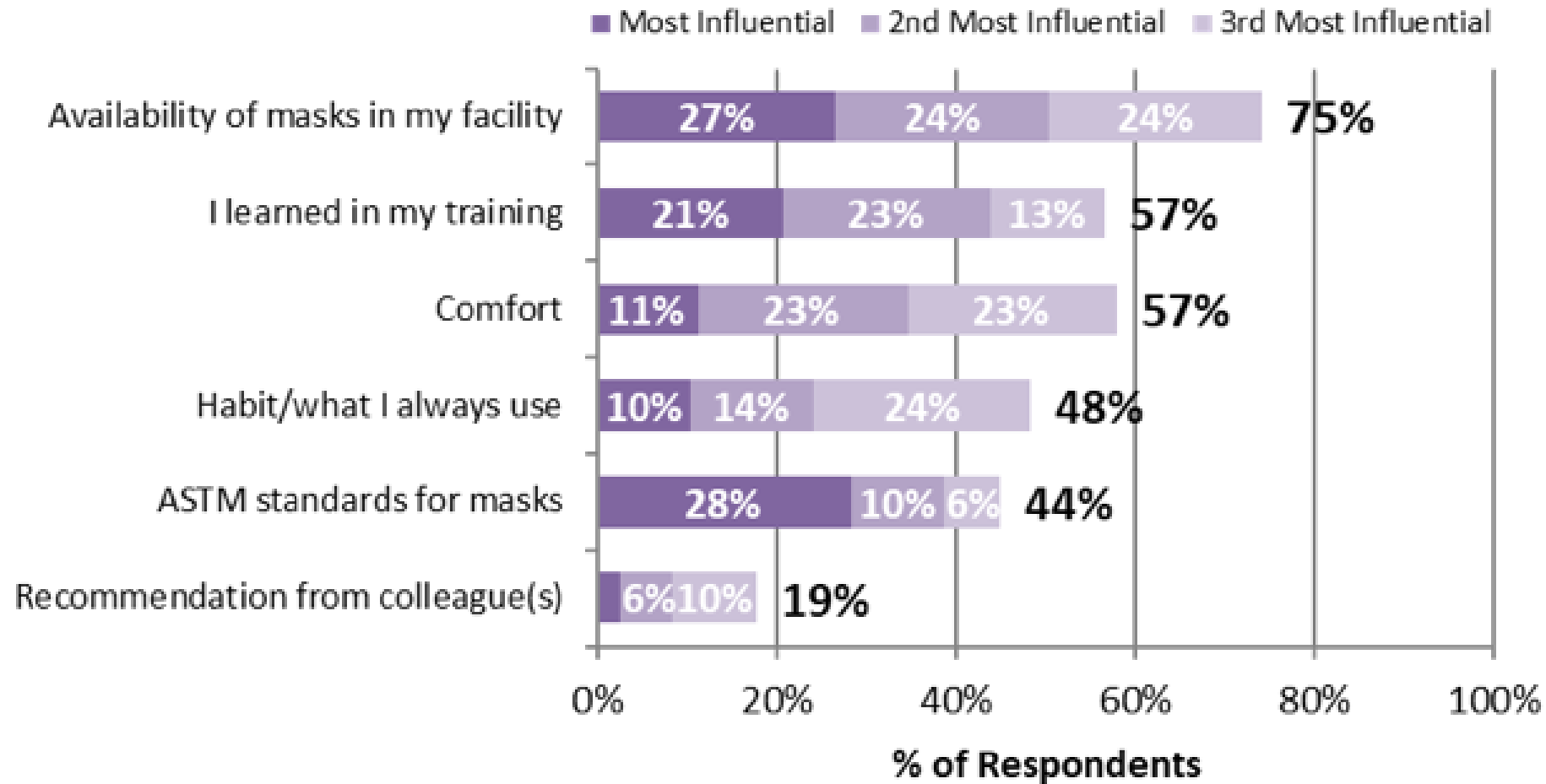
The risks are real

- **One of the exposure risks is to blood borne pathogens, including HIV, HBV, HVC and others³**
- **One of the top five causes of injury among healthcare workers⁴**
- **Blood or blood products involved in 63% of exposure incidents⁵**
 - 26% of OR blood exposures are to the heads and necks of scrubbed personnel⁶
 - 59% of blood and bodily fluid exposures among experienced OR doctors⁷
 - 17% of blood exposures occur with circulating personnel outside the sterile field⁸
- **Yet, 76% of OR directors make *procedure* masks available for OR staff⁹**

Q2 – How aware are you of the costs associated with exposure incidences or citations from staff related injuries?

- A. Very aware
- B. Somewhat aware
- C. Not at all aware

How are masks typically selected?¹⁰



Q3 – How are you selecting your masks?

- A. What is provided to me
- B. What I learned in training
- C. Comfort
- D. Habit/what I always have used
- E. Leverage the ASTM standards



Most people choose the wrong mask

- **75% use the incorrect PPE for the procedure or setting¹¹**
- **May lead not only to staff and patient health risks, but also regulatory citations and fines**
- **Following ASTM standards would help solve the problem, but awareness of them is low:**
 - 48% of OR staff unaware of ASTM standards and different levels of protection¹²
 - 57% of face mask units sold in 2016 did not have or claim an ASTM rating¹³

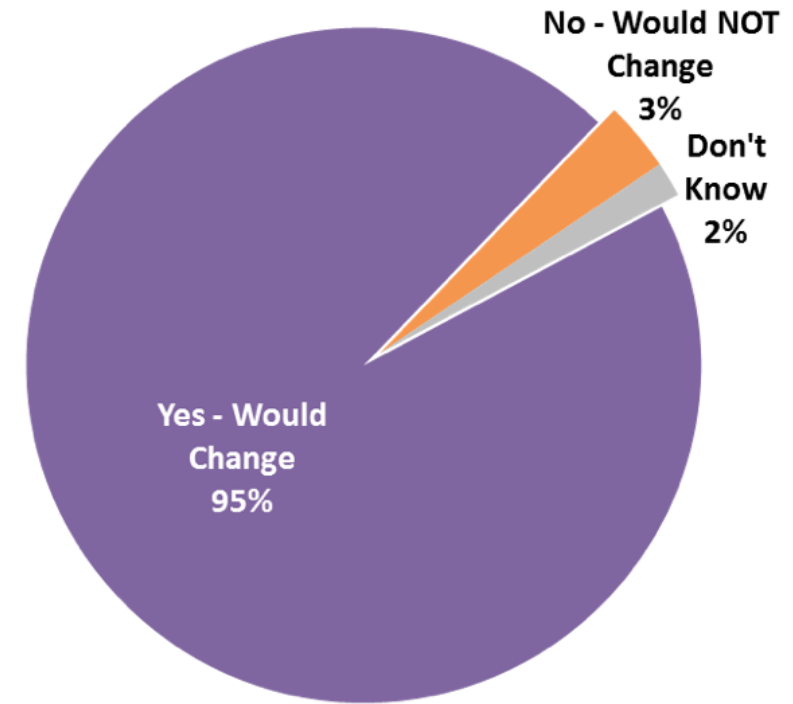
Clinical Insights: Incorrect usage

- **Proper mask usage is an important part of nurse training**
- **Yet, even nurses wear the wrong mask for the level of risk**
- **Mary Washington Hospital focuses on proper mask selection, to help avoid HAIs**
 - **Extensive staff training**



Medical judgement vs. ASTM industry standards

- **84% of facilities have a mask selection protocol**
- **56% of the time clinicians use medical judgement—even if *outside* of protocol**
- **95% would change their selection if awareness of ASTM standards was increased—including OR nurses, non-OR nurses and managers¹⁴**



Q4 – Does your institution have current protocol based on ASTM guidelines?

A. Yes

B. No

C. I am not aware

What is ASTM International?

- Defines more than 12,500 international standards across a wide variety of industries and services
- Healthcare organizations globally adopt ASTM recommendations to implement best practices
- In 2001, ASTM created protocol F 2100 to define three standardized mask levels; updated in 2012








Three levels of ASTM barrier protection

- **Level 1: low barrier protection**
 - General use for short procedures and exams that don't involve aerosols, spray or fluids
- **Level 2: moderate barrier protection**
 - For low to moderate levels of aerosols, spray and/or fluids
- **Level 3: maximum barrier protection**
 - For heavy levels of aerosols, spray and/or fluids



How ASTM levels are determined

CHARACTERISTICS	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 1
 Bacterial filtration efficiency	≥98%	≥98%	≥95%
 Sub-micron particulates filtration efficient at 0.1 micron	≥98%	≥98%	≥95%
 Differential pressure, mm H2O/cm2 (Breathability)	<5.0	<5.0	<4.0
 Resistance to penetration by synthetic blood, minimum pressure in mm Hg for pass result	160 mm Hg	120 mm Hg	80 mm Hg
 Flame spread	Class 1	Class 1	Class 1

The “4 Fs” of selecting the right mask

Protection over preference – keeping safety top of mind

**Use ASTM standards to support choices around filtrations and fluid resistance*

1. Filtration

- When smoke is present or interacting with TB infected patient, use a high filtration mask (N95 respirator)

2. Fluid resistance

- Wear a fluid resistant mask if there's any chance of blood and/or bodily fluid splatter
- ASTM Level 3 surgical masks are recommended as an OR best practice

3. Features

- Securement – loops or ties (*Mask with ear loops are not recommended for the OR*)
- Anti-fog film, foam and tapes reduce distractions from fogging issues
- Shields and protective eyewear keep eyes clear of blood and splash

4. Fit

- Even the right mask not worn correctly could put you at risk
- Nose and mouth must be covered completely
- Create a seal around the face to prevent gaps that increase the risk of inhalation exposure

Bonus: Feel

- Comfort & breathability



Filtration



Fluid Resistance



Features



Fit

Clinical Insights: Correct usage

- **Nursing leaders expected to do what's right to keep OR staff safe**
- **Mary Washington Hospital provides OR options for fit and feel—
all while meeting Level 3 safety requirements**

Choose right every time

- **The health hazards are real—3 out of 4 mask decisions are incorrect¹⁵**
- **Follow your hospital protocol for mask selection**
- **Cardinal Health uses the “4 Fs” and ASTM standards for general guidelines:**
 - ASTM Level 3 masks provide maximum protection—without compromising comfort and breathability
 - ASTM Level 1 masks are the general standard for both surgical and procedural use
 - In addition, N95 respirators protect when lasers or electrocautery tools are used
- **We can assist with training on Cardinal Health brand products**

Q&A

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