COVID-19 N95 Disinfection **Regional** and **Offsite**

**FAQ 4.27.2020 1300**

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Q. **When do I drop off my used mask for disinfection?**
A. At the end of your shift.

Q. **How long will it take to get my N95 mask returned to my unit?**
A. There is an estimated 24-hour turnaround time. If we experience a surge, there is an estimated turnaround time of 48 hours.

Q. **How many times will my N95 mask be disinfected?**
A. Currently, up to 5 disinfection cycles per mask.

Q. **What if I cared for a TB or C. diff patient while wearing my N95 mask?**
A. Not all our disinfection processes are rated for TB and C. diff. Please discard your N95 and follow unit protocol to obtain a new mask.

Q. **Does writing on my N95 mask with a Sharpie compromise the integrity of the mask?**
A. No. And it is necessary to use a Sharpie, not a pen or pencil, so information can be read after disinfection.

Q. **For regional and offsite teams, how many days a week are available for mask disinfection?**
A. While we disinfect masks at BW 7 days a week, our supply truck schedule will support the disinfection process Mon. - Fri. for regional and offsite locations.

Q. **What if my mask is not returned (my bag is empty)?**
A. You will receive a **clean** bag with your full name, location, unit and date along with a note stating your mask was not disinfected (e.g. exceeded disinfection cycles, straps broke, mask was damaged). Please follow unit protocol to obtain a new mask.

Q. **After disinfection, what if my mask no longer fits properly?**
A. If your mask does not fit properly due to wear or processing, please follow unit protocol to obtain a new mask.

Q. **What if I am unable to pull air through or complete a proper seal check?**
A. Safety first! Please discard your mask and follow unit protocol to obtain a new mask.
Q. What if my mask or straps are torn or damaged?
A. Please place mask in a paper bag, marked—BROKEN MASK—and put in “Used” tote. Follow unit protocol to obtain a new mask.

Q. If I cannot drop off my mask at the end of my shift (e.g. work at different campuses), can I drop it off the next day for disinfection?
A. Yes. Leave your mask in the paper bag and drop it off, the next day, in the “used” tote in your area.

Q. Can I safely store my mask in a plastic container?
A. No. Plastic containers hold moisture. Please store only in a paper bag so your mask can dry out.

Please refer to the Health Care Professionals Resources page for additional information.