

COVID-19 PPE Update: N-95 Masks Sourced Overseas – 5.15.20 1415

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The COVID-19 pandemic has created a worldwide shortage of PPE. This has required healthcare organizations to source PPE aggressively, securing product from suppliers we haven't worked with in the past. Supply Chain Sourcing and Value Analysis teams have worked diligently to ensure the PPE purchased for use at Spectrum Health meets clinical and regulatory standards.

The CDC and FDA are continuously evaluating the efficacy of products entering the United States which are manufactured overseas. Validating NIOSH approval of N95 masks is a major focus of this work. Updates are posted by the CDC frequently with the results of their investigations and these updates are monitored by Supply Chain.

Concerns were raised from clinicians regarding N95 masks procured from manufacturers in China, specifically the Dasheng brand of masks. Supply Chain is confident that the N95 masks purchased from China are NIOSH certified as they were purchased both directly from the Dasheng factory and through a distributor that worked directly with the Dasheng factory.

Although there is no evidence that our Dasheng N95 masks are not legitimate, Supply Chain has made the decision to remove these masks from circulation and have them tested by a licensed third party for particle filtration efficiency.

Next steps:

- Supply Chain team members will work with department leaders to remove any unused Dasheng N95 masks from departments
- Supply Chain will work with Sterile Processing to swap out used Dasheng N95 masks for different N95 masks at the point of mask disinfection
- A sample of Dasheng N95 masks will be sent for laboratory testing
- Based upon test results, further communication will be shared pertaining to Dasheng N95 and internationally sourced N95 masks

As an organization, we are committed to provide ideal PPE to our teams.