



POWERED AIR PURIFYING RESPIRATOR (PAPR)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRAINING AND MEDICAL CLEARANCE DURING COVID-19 RESPONSE



Certain personnel who perform “high risk” procedures, such as aerosol-generating procedures (AGP) while caring for COVID-19 patients are eligible to use a PAPR.

Training:

Many employees will be trained on both the N-95 mask and the PAPR within the same compliance year. These employees will have a badge sticker for each respirator. These employees may wear *either* types of respiratory protection, as long as they follow the latest VUMC guidelines and policies on PPE usage during COVID-19 procedures (<https://www.vumc.org/coronavirus/clinical-guidance>). Please note a N-95 respirator mask with eye protection is clinically equivalent to a PAPR in this setting, so all staff will not need PAPR training.

Stickers for the 3 different N95 respirators used at VUMC



PAPR Sticker



Previous authorization: If you have previously completed PAPR training and medical clearance, you do not need to repeat this process (such as Emergency Department staff who have completed PAPR training for the decontamination first responders team).



PAPRs are not available in all locations. Ask your manager if your department has PAPRs available. Managers may send requests for PAPRs through the Incident Command Center.

To receive authorization to wear a PAPR:

1 Complete the PAPR medical clearance form

- a. [Download the form](#)
- b. Scan and email **completed form**, save it as a PDF file, then email it to **occupational.health.clinic@vumc.org**. Include “**PAPR Clearance**” in the subject line.
- c. Occupational Health will review each form within 2 business days after submission. **IMPORTANT:** *Please only send PDF file attachments. Other file formats will not work.*
 - If you do NOT receive a phone call within 24 hours, you may assume you have been cleared to use a PAPR.
 - If you have a medical history or condition and are concerned that you may not be able to wear a PAPR, about your ability to wear a PAPR, do NOT put on or train in the PAPR. *Wait for further review by Occupational Health.*

2 Next, get training. PAPR training is now available online in the Learning Exchange.

- a. [Log in to the Learning Exchange](#) to sign up for [Powered Air Purifying Respirator \(PAPR\) Training - VEHS Official Course](#).
- b. Print out your training completion certificate.

3 Finally, talk to your manager.

- a. Show proof of completion (such as your training certificate) to your manager.
- b. Your manager will show you where PAPRs are stored in your department, allow you to practice donning and doffing a PAPR, and then give you a PAPR sticker for your badge.

More Resources:

Donning and doffing videos & updated procedures for the Versaflo and the Air-Mate brand PAPRs are available through the clinical guidance section of the [VUMC Coronavirus web site](#).

- a. [PPE Training: PAPR \(NEW: March 23, 2020\)](#)
- b. PAPR PPE Video Training: (NEW: March 23, 2020)
 - [Video Training Versaflo PAPR](#)
 - [Video Training Air-Mate PAPR](#)



Scan the QR code to view the VEHS website for PAPR Training During COVID-19 Response or visit the website below.

<https://www.vumc.org/safety/clinical/papr-training-during-covid-19-response>

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