

LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER SAFETY POLICY

		Page 1	Of 2
Subject: RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM		Original Issue Date: 1993	Policy # SP 129
		Supersedes: March 2019	Effective Date: March 2022
Departments Consulted:	Reviewed & Approved by: (Signature on File) Safety Officer	Approved by: (Signature on File) Director, Facilities Management	

PURPOSE

To ensure the health and safety of employees who are required to use respiratory protection as part of their safe work practice.

POLICY

The LAC+USC Medical Center shall establish, implement, and maintain a Respiratory Protection Program in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

PROCEDURE

Cal/OSHA Standards require the use of engineering controls or administrative controls to reduce airborne contaminant exposures to levels below the exposure limits. When it is clearly impractical to remove harmful dusts, fumes, mists, vapors, or gases at their source, or when emergency protection against occasional and/or relatively brief exposure is needed, the supervisor shall provide, and the employee exposed to such hazard shall use, approved respiratory equipment.

An effective respiratory program shall include the following:

- **WRITTEN STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**
 - Methods of selection
 - Cleaning and sanitizing
 - Inspection and Maintenance
- **SELECTION AND ISSUANCE OF RESPIRATORS**
 - Use correct respirator specified for each job.
 - Label the respirator with user's name.
 - Record the date of the respirator issued.
- **INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING**
 - Train employee in the need, use, sanitary care and limitations.
 - Instruct employee on how to properly fit and test respirator equipment.
- **FITTING AND TESTING**
 - Employee should try a variety of sizes to get a comfortable fit.
 - Perform a qualitative fit test.
- **INSPECTION, CLEANING, AND STORAGE**

Subject:
RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

Effective Date:
March 2022

Policy #
SP 129

- Employee to inspect the respirator before and after each use.
- Clean face piece and breathing tube in cleaner or disinfectant.
- Place respirators in plastic bag.

- **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**
 - A licensed physician shall determine whether the employee is physically able to perform the work while using the respirator.

- **WORK AREA SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM EVALUATION**
 - Survey the work environment.
 - Evaluate program effectiveness regularly.

- **AIR QUALITY STANDARDS**
 - Compressed air must meet all quality standards as required.

REFERENCE

- Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Section 5144

REVIEW/REVISION DATE – 02/99, 11/03, 07/04, 11/07, 12/10, 03/13, 03/16, 03/19, 03/22