

Face Masks



NEED TO KNOW

There are two main types of face mask:

- **Surgical** - different grades, type II is the level that offers medical level protection against airborne pathogens.
- **Respirators** - different grades FFP2 and above are medical grade.

	Surgical	Respirator
Fitting	Loose	Tight
Helps protect from splashes and large particles	Yes	Yes
Helps reduce spread of infection from wearer	Yes	Yes
Filters smaller particles like viruses	No	Yes
Suitable for children	Yes	No
Use for practitioner to minimise spread of virus	Yes	Yes

KEY FACTS

- Masks should be worn if you have a cough or are sneezing.
- Masks only work in conjunction with frequent and good hand hygiene.
- Masks need to be changed regularly as they become less effective when damp.
- Masks must be disposed of carefully to reduce risk of spreading contaminants.

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