



<b>Document#:</b>  <b>CO-3</b>	 <b>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</b>	<b>Status: v 0.0 DRAFT</b>  <b>Revised: May 22, 2020</b> <b>Owner: Shared Health</b>
<b>Reprocessing Single Use N95 Respirators due to COVID-19</b> <b>Sorting Compatible N95 Respirators for Reprocessing</b>		<b>This Guideline has been reviewed and adjusted to reflect Southern Health-Santé Sud protocols and policies – May 1, 2020.</b>


<b>Purpose</b>	To collect and reprocess single use compatible N95 respirators with Health Canada approved methods. These will be stored and used as a backup supply to our regular inventory on the direction of the Provincial Ministry or Health Authority.
<b>Types of N95 Respirators</b>	Refer to <b><i>N95 Respirator Content Information from Vendors.</i></b>


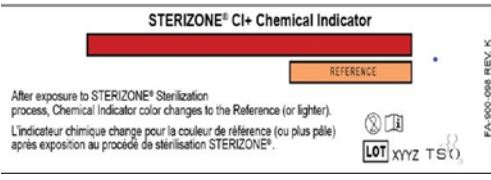
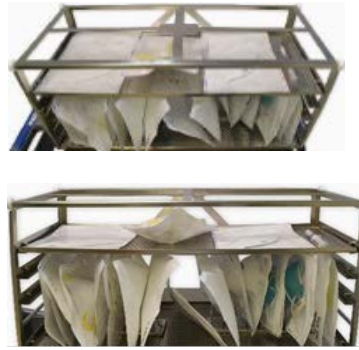

**The Process:**


<b>Step</b>	<b>Collecting N95 Respirators</b>
1.	Refer to <i>(CO-1-shared health document) N95 Respirator and Eye Protection Collection for Sterilization and Reuse.</i>
<b>Step</b>	<b>External Site Collection</b>
1.	Collect used N95 respirators for reprocessing in a clear bag tied and placed into closed container secured with <b>RED</b> numbered tie wraps
2.	Label Collection Bins containing N95 that are ready to be sorted with Bio Hazard Sticker, Transportation Inventory List and transport label, for Boundary Trails Health Centre (BTHC) Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) Decontamination
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reprocessed respirators will be marked with a letter to indicate it has been reprocessed and line indicating the number of times the respirator has been reprocessed.</li> <li>If the respirator is unmarked, it has not yet been reprocessed.</li> <li>Respirators reprocessed using STERIZONE VP4 Sterilizer are labelled "X" on the respirator. These respirators may be reprocessed up to a maximum of two times. (unless otherwise directed)</li> <li>Place respirators into a clear bag and a clearly labelled enclosed bin for return to Boundary Trails Health Centre (BTHC) Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) Decontamination</li> <li>If the respirator has any other combination of markings, set aside for further examination by BTHC MDR.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="1138 1339 1432 1625" style="text-align: right;">  <p><b>"X" = STERIZONE VP4</b></p> </div>

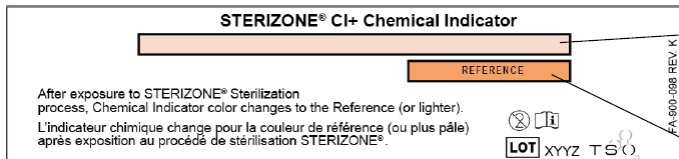
<b>Step</b>	<b>Sorting at BTHC MDR using STERIZONE VP4 equipment for N95</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BTHC MDR staff will don full PPE prior to opening any container or enclosed</li> </ul>



<b>Document#:</b>  <b>CO-3</b>	 <b>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</b>	<b>Status: v 0.0 DRAFT</b>  <b>Revised: May 22, 2020</b> <b>Owner:</b> <b>Shared Health</b>
<b>Reprocessing Single Use N95 Respirators due to COVID-19</b> <b>Sorting Compatible N95 Respirators for Reprocessing</b>		<b>This Guideline has been reviewed and adjusted to reflect Southern Health-Santé Sud protocols and policies – May 1, 2020.</b>

4.	<p>Ensure that a STERIZONE CI+ or compatible chemical indicator is contained within each pouch.</p>  
5.	Make sure both ends of the Tyvek pouches are sealed.
Step	Reprocessing using Sterizone VP4 Sterilizer
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place the pouches onto the loading rack. Using two pouch holders on the bottom shelf will help maximize the rack capacity.</li> <li>Pouches should not overlap each other.</li> <li>Loading rack has enough weight and surface area to reach 3:30 minute hydrogen peroxide injection time</li> <li>Ensure sterilizer is loaded to allow for free flow of vaporized hydrogen peroxide vapor.</li> <li>Up to 20 respirators can be processed in a sterilization load.</li> <li>Load temperature should be between 20-26°C (68-78°F).</li> </ul> 
2.	When running consecutive cycles, ensure the loading rack and pouch holders are cooled down between cycles (approximately 15 minutes) back to a temperature between 20° - 26°C (68° - 78°F). Use of an infrared temperature gun is advised.
3.	<p>Place a Test Pack 1 containing a STERIZONE BI+ Self-contained Biological Indicator<sup>2</sup> (or STERIZONE VP4 compatible biological indicator), and a STERIZONE CI+ Chemical Indicator<sup>3</sup> (or STERIZONE VP4 compatible chemical indicator) on the top shelf of the loading rack, as per recommendation of the STERIZONE VP4 Sterilizer User Manual.</p> 
4	Initiate a cycle and once cycle is completed, verify successful completion following the STERIZONE VP4 Sterilizer User Manual.
5.	Once cycle is complete, inspect each respirator and discard any damaged ones.

<b>Document#:</b>  <b>CO-3</b>	 <b>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</b>	<b>Status: v 0.0 DRAFT</b>  <b>Revised: May 22, 2020</b> <b>Owner: Shared Health</b>
<b>Reprocessing Single Use N95 Respirators due to COVID-19</b> <b>Sorting Compatible N95 Respirators for Reprocessing</b>		<b>This Guideline has been reviewed and adjusted to reflect Southern Health-Santé Sud protocols and policies – May 1, 2020.</b>

6.	<p>Check that the indicator color stripe of the CI+, contained in each package, to ensure it is a lighter color than the reference stripe. If the color is darker than the reference, return respirator to decontamination to be repacked and reprocessed. If the respirator has already been reprocessed twice (2 black lines), discard respirator.</p> 
7.	Keep respirators in Tyvek pouches until next use.
8.	Wait for an aeration time of at least 24 hours post-reprocessing before using the N95 respirators.
9.	Healthcare facilities should report any discoloration or other signs of degradation with a decontaminated, compatible N95 respirator to STRYKER, and the healthcare facility should discard the respirator.
<b>Step</b>	<b>Re-issue of N95 respirators</b>
1	Return decontaminated N95 respirators to Materials Management for secure storage and re-issue according to PPE policies.