Additional Information

Comparison of Standards: Filtering Masks

Standard	Type	Particle Filtration Efficiency	Tested against Particle Size in Microns	Protection against liquid & solid particles
American NIOSH	N95	95%	0.3 &above	Depends on mask type. Certain masks protect only against solid particles
European EN149:2001	Dräger Piccola FFP1	80%	0.3 &above	Yes
European EN149:2001	Dräger Piccola FFP2	94%	0.3 &above	Yes
European EN149:2001	**Dräger Piccola FFP3v**	**99%**	**0.3 &above**	**Yes**
Comments: 1) With exhalation valve: Reduces the built-up of exhaled air in the mask, easier breathing and comfortable wearing for long hours				
European EN149:2001	**Dräger Piccola FFP3**	**99%**	**0.3 &above**	**Yes**
Comments: 1) Without exhalation valve 2) Extra layer of polypropylene: extra fluid resistant protection 3) Two-way filtering effect: particles are filtered out from ambient air as well as exhaled air of mask wearer				

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How does wearing a filtering mask protect me?
A filtering mask is made up from several layers of materials designed to filter out minute particulates from the air. A mask, when worn correctly, filters out particulates (solid, liquid or both) from the air passing through it. This prevents potentially harmful substances from entering our respiratory tracts through our nose or mouth.

2) What type of masks should I use to reduce my risk of infection from SARS?
Draeger, as well as major health institutes in Germany, recommends the FFP3 mask approved to European EN149: 2001 standard. These masks are designed to protect against **both solid and liquid** contaminants in the air. Masks that filter only solid particulates alone may not be fully effective against viruses and bacteria transmitted through droplets or liquid aerosols.

3) Are these masks available in different sizes? How do I choose the right one to use?
Disposable filtering masks are usually available in one size only. When selecting a mask, it is important to check that it will fit your face properly or is flexible enough to follow the contours of your face. A mask can protect the user effectively only when it fits properly and no gaps are apparent between the face and the mask. Such gaps result in leakages whereby contaminants can enter through.

4) How do I ensure that the mask is worn properly?
Whichever type of mask is selected, it is important to follow the manufacturer's Instruction for Use (IFU) carefully. An incorrectly worn mask may offer little or no protection and may result in a false sense of security for the user.

5) Why do I find it harder to breathe when wearing a mask?
A mask is usually made up of various layers of filtering material through which the air must pass before entering our respiratory system. This creates some resistance that results in slightly increased effort to breathe normally. However, increased breathing resistance is also an indication of a good fit. A poorly fitting mask, on the other hand, can have lower breathing resistance due to leakages between the face and mask surface.

6) What is the purpose of the valve on the mask?
Some masks are fitted with exhalation valves that permit one-way flow of the exhaled air to the outside. This reduces the humidity build-up inside the mask and makes it more comfortable for the user.