

PREVENTION OF INFLUENZA A: WHICH KIND OF MASK TO USE?

Two types of disposable masks are envisaged in the prevention plan dealing with influenza A:

- FFP2-type protective respiratory masks
- surgical or anti-projection masks

Role of disposable FFP2–type respiratory protection masks

Protects the person wearing the mask against the risk of inhaling small droplets or particles suspended in the air and thus contains the virus causing the pandemic.

The FFP2-class is recommended by the national pandemic plan and is available to staff providing emergency shifts during a flu pandemic.



Role of surgical or anti-projection masks:

Protect others by avoiding projections of droplets issued from the person wearing the mask while talking, coughing or sneezing towards the surroundings.

Protects the person wearing the mask against the projections of droplets from surrounding people.

The surgical mask should be worn by people showing symptoms at the workplace (pending their return to their homes) and by persons in close contact.



Reminder for adjusting masks:

Unfold them completely, tighten the solid straps or correctly position the elasticised straps, bend and tighten the aluminium strip around the nose; the mask must cover the face from the nose to the chin.

Wash your hands after positioning and removing the mask.

[Reference : INRS « *Pandémie grippale et entreprises –update 24. 06. 09* » - Fiche pratique de sécurité ED 105]