

# **N95 Fit-Testing Vendor Checklist**

## **For Affiliates in the Fraser Health Region**

### **Why should you use this checklist?**

This checklist is a guide/tool for Affiliates in the Fraser Health region to confirm that external fit-testing service providers are

- Conducting fit-testing in compliance with CSA requirements; and
- Covering applicable education items relevant to health care teams or workers.

By providing quality fit-testing, you can ensure your staff are properly instructed and fit-tested on an N95.

### **When to use the N95 Fit-Testing Provider checklist?**

Affiliates in the Fraser Health region can use this checklist when selecting an external fit testing service providers. The checklist outlines the key requirements which should be met by external fit testing service providers prior to, and during the fit test (see sections entitled External Fit Testing Service Provider Questionnaire and Fit Test Session Checklist).

### **Who can use this checklist?**

This checklist is available for all Fraser Health Affiliates to use. Further instructions on use of the checklist are provided within the checklist.

Complete the questionnaire below when selecting an external fit-testing service provider.

EXTERNAL FIT-TESTING SERVICE PROVIDER QUESTIONNAIRE			
Basic Information			
Name of Service Provider:			
Number of fit-testers:			
On-site and/or off-site fit testing options available:			
Pricing structure:			
Questions on Qualitative Fit-Testing Service			
Question	Yes	No	Comments
1. Do you perform fit-testing in accordance with the CAN/CSA-Z94.4-18 standard?			All fit-testing should be conducted in accordance to CAN/CSA-Z94.4-18.
2. Is education provided on use of an N95 as part of the fit-test? If yes, are the topics listed in the comments section covered?			<input type="checkbox"/> Purpose of fit-testing <input type="checkbox"/> When N95 respirators should be used <input type="checkbox"/> Donning/doffing instructions <input type="checkbox"/> Seal checks
3. Are you able to provide fit-testing on the N95's used at our facility?			Indicate to the fit-test provider the N95 models used in your facility.
4. How long does each fit-testing session take?	Time:		Each fit test session (including education and fit test) should take approximately 15-20 minutes.
5. How many subjects can one fit-tester provide fit tests to at one time?	#/fit tester:		
6. Do you have any disinfecting and cleaning protocols in place?			e.g. for wiping down surfaces, testing equipment etc. Fit test hoods must be cleaned between after use between each HCW.
7. Are fit-tester(s) able to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination?			
8. Do you use a bitter aerosol challenge agent (e.g. Bitrex) as your primary method of fit-testing?			Although there are various types of challenge agents, it is recommended to use a bitter aerosol challenge agent as the primary method.

If all questions are answered “Yes” and align with the standards indicated, and there are no initial concerns, the site may consider using this service provider for fit-testing services.

### Optional Question for the Service Provider

1. Do you provide quantitative fit testing should a subject have troubles completing a fit-test using a challenge agent? Yes / No

*Note: If the provider does not offer quantitative fit-testing (typically completed using a portacount) as an alternative, you may not be able to achieve a high (e.g. close to 100%) completion rate. However, the vast majority of subjects can be fit-tested using a challenge agent. Please email us at [ohs.affiliates@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:ohs.affiliates@fraserhealth.ca) if you have questions about quantitative fit-testing.*

Complete the checklist below for at least one fit test.

DURING THE FIT-TEST			
General Information			
Date of Fit-test Session:			
Name(s) of Fit-Tester(s):			
Location of Fit-test Session:			
Name of Observer:			
Fit-Test Session			
Topic	Yes	No	Guidance for Observer / Comments
1. Subjects provided with education on the N95, including use, types of N95's, etc.?			See Additional Information section below for guidance on suggested topics.
2. Purpose of fit-testing explained?			The purpose of fit-testing is to verify the fit of a respirator to the subject to protect the subject from any known or potential respiratory hazards.
3. Sensitivity test explained?			The sensitivity test ensures that the subject can taste the challenge agent (e.g. bitrex).
4. *Sensitivity test performed with the hood on?			The sensitivity solution must be sprayed into the fit-test hood.
5. *Donning/doffing instructions provided?  Use the checkboxes to the right to confirm each step is completed.		N/A	<u>Donning:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> PPE on the face (goggles, masks, glasses, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Top strap of respirator sits at the crown of the head <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom strap of the respirator sits at the nape of the neck <input type="checkbox"/> Nosepiece moulded to the nose bridge <u>Doffing:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> PPE on the face (goggles, masks, glasses, etc) removed <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom strap removed to the front of the respirator/face held by one hand <input type="checkbox"/> Top strap removed while leaning over <input type="checkbox"/> Educated to dispose of N95 immediately after doffing
6. *Subject instructed to complete seal checks each time a respirator is donned?			Includes both positive and negative pressure check completed.
7. *Fit-test performed following all required steps?  Use the checkboxes to the right to confirm each step is completed.		N/A	6 mandatory exercises are performed for 30 seconds each. <input type="checkbox"/> Challenge agent is administered prior to each exercise <u>Exercises:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Normal breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Deep breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Turn head side to side <input type="checkbox"/> Nod head up and down <input type="checkbox"/> Talk out loud <input type="checkbox"/> Normal breathing Optional 'bending over' exercise may be performed.
8. Fit-test was documented?			This can be in the form of a fit test card, form, or any other medium.

For any items answered as “No” or gaps are identified in the comments section, **action is required**.

- **“No” observations without an asterisk (#1, 2,3, 8)** - provide instruction to the fit-tester to address the gaps
- **“No” observation with an asterisk (#4, 5, 6, 7)** – fit-testing should cease immediately and the gaps addressed with the service provider. You may also email us at [ohs.affiliates@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:ohs.affiliates@fraserhealth.ca) a copy of the checklist to request a consultation for guidance on how to proceed. These fit-tests will need to be redone.

## Additional Information

Here is a list of education topics that need to be covered during the fit test session:

- ✓ Subject instructed that fit tests are required on an annual basis.
- ✓ Explanation of N95 provided (protects against particulates). No protection against vapours or gases.
- ✓ May be normal for glasses to fog up. Anti-fog wipes or spray can be used for glasses and/or goggles.
- ✓ Subject instructed that N95s are one time use – replace if damaged, or when it becomes wet, soiled, or dirty.

Here is a list of education topics that may be covered during the fit test session:

- ✓ No particular N95 is better than any other in terms of protective ability of the material.
- ✓ All N95s are latex-free.
- ✓ N95 will become warm and humid which may result in flushed face.