

PPE:

Useful links relating to disposable face masks and respirators.

- ABSANZ document: [ABSANZ position statement regarding cloth masks in labs](#)
- Ansell document: [COVID-19: AN OVERVIEW OF MASK RATINGS CLASSIFIED BY LEADING STANDARD](#)
- Australian Govt Dept of Health: [Should I wear a surgical mask?](#)
- Australian Government [Department of health](#) – for health alerts, COVIDSafe app, resources
- Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists: [A Guide to Buying P2, or Equivalent, Respirators for use in the Australian & New Zealand Work Environment](#)
- CDC document: [COVID-19 Response: International respirator assessment](#), looks at KN95
- CDC document: [Home-made masks](#)
- CDC document: [Understanding the difference between surgical masks and N95 respirators](#)
- CDC/NIOSH approved respirators:
https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/N95list1sect3.html
- Global Medical Device Nomenclature (GMDN): <https://www.gmdnagency.org/News/Article/2000159> for specific generic descriptions of respirators
- NSW Health: [P2 Masks](#)
- NSW Health: [General Guidance for cloth masks](#)
- NSW Health: [COVID-19 - Frequently asked questions](#)
- SafeWork NSW [FAKE MASK ALERT](#) - SafeWork NSW alert re P2/N95 masks
- TGA: [Medical Device labelling obligations](#) – for Levels 1,2 & 3 surgical masks, P2 & N95 masks(& equivalent)

PPE and Nanotechnology

[WHO GUIDELINES ON PROTECTING WORKERS FROM POTENTIAL RISKS OF MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS](#)

The principle of hierarchy of controls, is that the first control measure should be to eliminate the source of exposure before implementing control measures that are more dependent on worker involvement. More emphasis needs to be placed on preventative measures and decreasing exposure by engineering controls, such as full enclosure and mechanical air handling systems (eg local exhaust ventilation), with PPE being used only as a last resort.

A list of selected manufactured nanomaterials (MNM) and their up-to-date hazard classes, according to the GHS and as assigned by the systematic review team, is [available in Table 2 page 47](#). The most common hazard classes assigned to MNMs are:

- specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure
- carcinogenicity
- germ cell mutagenicity
- serious eye damage
- respiratory or skin sensitization.