

# Facemasks

## Surgical facemask

This type of facemask should be used during possible exposure to pathogens. It is effective against transmission via droplets (saliva and other secretions). Protection against airborne pathogens is not possible.

There are three classifications, based on EN 14683 standards (Type I, Type II and Type IIR). However, Medline only carries the classifications described below:

### Surgical - Type II

Type II facemasks should be used during surgical intervention or patient care procedures with no possibility of exposure to biological fluids. Depending on intended use, these facemasks may come with:

- Ear loops: on procedure masks; to be used in wards, for patient care (dressing procedure etc.) Do not use in the operating theatre
- Ties: on surgical facemasks; to be used in the operating theatre



Procedure facemask



Surgical facemask

### Surgical - Type IIR

Type IIR facemasks should be used during surgical intervention or patient care procedures with possibility of exposure to biological fluids. These facemasks offer high-level protection against fluids and are suitable for long procedures.

To improve the level of protection and comfort, different options are available (shield, anti-fog band etc.). Type IIR facemasks are also available with ties and ear loops (see description for Type II).



Anti-splash facemask



Anti-splash facemask with shield

**Tip:** It is recommended that the facemask is changed every 3 hours or if it is soiled, humidified or damaged. Do not reuse a facemask after removing it from the face.

## Respirator

This type of facemask is to be used against airborne pathogens. There are three classifications; FFP1, FFP2 and FFP3, based on EN149 standards.

Respirators are classified according to filter performance:

- FFP1: to be used if there is low risk of/no direct contact with an infected patient (e.g. during patient transfer etc.)
- FFP2/FFP3: to be used during high-risk procedures with/if there is possibility of direct contact with an infected patient (e.g. during intubation, patient care etc.)

The performance of a respirator is evaluated taking into account its filtration and sealing capacity. Respirators are available with or without valve, in flat or cone shape.



Flat mask



Cone-shaped mask with valve

**Tip:** Change the respirator if it is soiled, humidified or damaged. Respirators offer protection for 8 hours of continuous use. Do not reuse a respirator after removing it from the face.

**To learn more about surgical masks,** contact your Medline account manager or visit [www.medline.eu/uk](http://www.medline.eu/uk)