

# Respirator Selection Guide for Aerosol Transmissible Diseases

The employer is responsible for selecting PPE, including but not limited to respiratory protection, appropriate for the hazard and the environment. The employer can always choose to select a higher level of respiratory protection than the minimum required.

Disease	Job Task	Respirator
Airborne infectious disease* (suspected or confirmed)	Routine patient care & support operations	At least N95
	High hazard procedures**	At least PAPR
Seasonal Influenza (suspected or confirmed)	Routine patient care & support operations	In accordance with facility policy; CDPH recommends at least permitting optional N95 use
	High hazard procedures**	At least N95
Other diseases requiring droplet precautions***	In accordance with facility policy	

\* See list on reverse or in Appendix A of ATD Standard

\*\* See definition on reverse or in ATD Standard

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## CAL/OSHA ATD STANDARD—DISEASES/ PATHOGENS REQUIRING AIRBORNE INFECTION ISOLATION

*(designated in the standard as “airborne infectious diseases” or AirlDs)*

Aerosolizable spore-containing powders such as Anthrax/Bacillus anthracis

Avian influenza/Avian influenza A (strains capable of causing serious disease in humans)

Varicella disease (chickenpox, disseminated shingles)

Measles (rubeola)/ Measles virus

Monkeypox/Monkeypox virus

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

Smallpox (variola)/Variola virus

Tuberculosis (TB)/Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Novel or unknown pathogens as defined by the standard

Any other disease for which public health guidelines recommend airborne infection isolation

## CAL/OSHA ATD STANDARD— HIGH HAZARD PROCEDURES DEFINITION

High hazard procedures are “procedures performed on a person who is a case or suspected case of an aerosol transmissible disease (or on a specimen suspected of containing an aerosol transmissible pathogen in a laboratory), in which the potential for being exposed to aerosol transmissible pathogens is increased due to the reasonably anticipated generation of aerosolized pathogens.”

Such procedures include, but are not limited to:

- Sputum induction
- Bronchoscopy
- Aerosolized administration of pentamidine or other medications
- Pulmonary function testing
- Autopsy, clinical, surgical, and laboratory procedures that may aerosolize pathogens.

## CAL/OSHA ATD STANDARD—DISEASES/ PATHOGENS REQUIRING DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

Diphtheria pharyngeal

Epiglottitis, due to Haemophilus influenzae type b

Haemophilus influenzae Serotype b (Hib) disease/  
Haemophilus influenzae serotype b—Infants and children

Influenza, human (typical seasonal variations)/  
influenza viruses\*

Meningitis

Haemophilus influenzae, type b known or suspected

Neisseria meningitidis (meningococcal) known or suspected

Meningococcal disease sepsis, pneumonia (see also meningitis)

Mumps (infectious parotitis)/Mumps virus

Mycoplasmal pneumonia

Parvovirus B19 infection (erythema infectiosum)

Pertussis (whooping cough)

Pharyngitis in infants and young children/Adenovirus,  
Orthomyxoviridae, Epstein-Barr virus, Herpes simplex virus,

Pneumonia

Adenovirus

Haemophilus influenzae Serotype b, infants and children

Meningococcal

Mycoplasma, primary atypical

Streptococcus Group A

Pneumonic plague/Yersinia pestis

Rubella virus infection (German measles)/Rubella virus

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

Streptococcal disease (group A streptococcus)

Skin, wound or burn, Major

Pharyngitis in infants and young children

Pneumonia

Scarlet fever in infants and young children

Serious invasive disease

Viral hemorrhagic fevers due to Lassa, Ebola, Marburg,  
Crimean-Congo fever viruses (airborne infection isolation and respirator use may be required for aerosol-generating procedures)

Any other disease for which public health guidelines recommend droplet precautions