Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs) provide a higher level of respiratory protection than a fit tested N-95 respirator. PAPRs are **required** for high hazard procedures for patients requiring airborne precautions.* Fit tested N95 respirators must be worn during high hazard procedures for all other patients.

**Diseases requiring airborne precautions include:**

- Novel viral pathogens
- Measles
- Chicken Pox
- Disseminated zoster
- Tuberculosis (TB)

**High Hazard procedures are:**

1. Sputum induction
2. Bronchoscopy
3. Open suctioning of an endotracheal tube or tracheostomy
4. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
5. Intubation/extubation
6. Aerosolized administration of medications
7. Pulmonary function testing
8. Autopsy, clinical, surgical and laboratory procedures that may aerosolize pathogens

**Clinical Support during High Hazard Procedures:**
Support personnel that are assisting and/or observing beyond 6ft from the high hazard procedure have an option to wear a PAPR or a fit tested N-95 respirator.

**Do I need to be fit tested to wear PAPR equipment?**
No. Medical clearance and training is required. Call OEHS (415.476.6884) for additional information.

**How to obtain a PAPR unit:**
Contact Materiel Services at 415.353.1837 to obtain a PAPR or an airborne precautions cart equipped with PAPR equipment.

**Are there exemptions?**
Yes. If PAPRs interfere with performing required task(s), a fit tested N-95 respirator may be worn.

**Current exemptions include:**

1. Emergent patient condition does not allow sufficient time to don PAPR equipment.
2. PAPR equipment interferes with the use of medical devices necessary to conduct a procedure.
3. Call (476-6884) to report other potential exemptions for review and consideration.

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* Per Cal-OSHA regulation Title 8, Section 5199, (g) (3) (B), [http://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8/5199.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8/5199.html)

Please contact the Medical Center Safety Office at MedicalCenterSafety@ucsf.edu or 415.885.3538 with any questions or concerns.

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