



On the Level: The New ASTM F2100 Mask Performance Rating

In the healthcare setting, choosing the appropriate face mask is a key component in minimizing the spread of potentially infectious diseases. It is recommended that dental healthcare workers choose masks that protect against microorganisms generated by them to others. Masks should also protect the wearer from large-particle droplet spatter that may contain bloodborne pathogens or other infectious microorganisms. The ASTM F2100-11 Standard Specification for Performance of Materials Used in Medical Face Masks will assist with that choice by requiring standardized testing and a graphic display on the primary mask packaging that rates the performance level of the mask.

The purpose of this program is to review mask recommendations for dental professionals and to discuss the roles of the FDA and ASTM as relates to medical face masks. The new ASTM F2100-11 mask performance rating will be described with a review of how this new rating can assist with appropriate mask selection.

Credits: 1 CEU

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There is no charge for Continuing Education credit for this program.

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