



Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, PNP
Camp BGen Rafael T Crame, Quezon City

AUG 28 2020

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO.: 2020 -056

**PRESCRIBING THE MINIMUM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)**

1. REFERENCES:

- a. NAPOLCOM Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2019-002 entitled: "Defining the Duty and Authority of the NAPOLCOM to Prescribe Minimum Standards for Uniforms, Arms, and Equipment to be Procured by the PNP" dated January 29, 2019;
- b. NAPOLCOM Resolution No. 2015-019, Small Tangible Items with estimated useful life of more than one year shall be recorded as inventories upon acquisition and expenses upon issuance. Consumable or Expendable items and/or Small Tangible Assets no longer needs NAPOLCOM Approved Specifications;
- c. PNP Memorandum Circular No. 2019-016 entitled "Implementing Guidelines of NAPOLCOM Resolution No. 2019-002 Defining the Commission's Function to Prescribe Minimum Standards for Uniforms, Arms and Equipment for the Philippine National Police and Delineation of Authority to the Chief, Philippine National Police and to Set Technical Specifications of PNP Uniforms, Arms and Equipment" dated April 4, 2019; and
- d. Memorandum from TDL dated May 6, 2020 with subject: Request Formulation of PNP Technical Specifications and NAPOLCOM Standard for Emerging Infectious Diseases Response Items.

2. RATIONALE:

This Memorandum Circular (MC) sets forth the minimum technical specifications for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be used by personnel of the Philippine National Police.

3. SITUATION:

Personal Protective Equipment work as a barrier between an individual's skin, mouth, nose, or eyes to deter viral and bacterial infections. In order to be used in a medical setting, medical gloves, gowns, and N95 respirators are regulated by government approved standards.

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PPEs are not only intended to protect the healthcare workers (doctors, nurses, other caregivers), and other frontliners from harmful virus/bacteria but also to prevent the spread of infection to other people.

4. PURPOSE:

To provide and establish the minimum technical specifications for Personal Protective Equipment that will serve as reference in its procurement.

5. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

For purposes of this MC, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **ASTM** - known as American Society for Testing and Materials, is an international standards organization that develops and publishes voluntary consensus technical standards for a wide range of materials, products, systems, and services.
- b. **Bacterial Filtration Efficiency or BFE** - is a measurement of a respirator material's resistance to penetration of bacteria. Results are reported as percent efficiency and correlate with the ability of the fabric to resist bacterial penetration. Higher numbers in this test indicate better barrier efficiency.
- c. **Flammability** - is the ease with which a combustible substance can be ignited, causing fire or combustion or even an explosion.
- d. **Latex** - is a stable dispersion of polymer microparticles in an aqueous medium. It is found in nature, but synthetic latexes can be made by polymerizing a monomer such as styrene that has been emulsified with surfactants.
- e. **Particle Filtration Efficiency or PFE** - can be used to detect the filtration efficiency and resistance of particles such as masks and filter materials in medical device inspection center, safety protection inspection center, drug inspection center, disease prevention and control center, textile inspection center, hospital, mask research and development and manufacturer.
- f. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** - is protective clothing, helmets, goggles, or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury or infection. The hazards addressed by protective equipment include physical, electrical, heat, chemicals, biohazards, and airborne particulate matter.
- g. **Polycarbonates** - group of thermoplastic polymers containing carbonate groups in their chemical structures. Polycarbonates used in engineering are strong, tough materials, and some grades are optically transparent. They are easily worked, molded, and thermoformed. Because of these properties, polycarbonates find many applications.

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h. **Polyisoprene** - is a hydrophobic and biodegradable polymer naturally occurring as latex in the laticiferous vessels or parenchymal (single) cells of rubber-producing plants such as hevea brasiliensis.

i) **Sterile** - is completely clean and free from germs.

6. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

a. Face Shield with Brow Protector

Description: A device worn on the head for covering the whole of the face and providing a barrier to splashes respiratory droplets, debris, and impact.

- 1) Material : Polycarbonate
- 2) Headband/Headgear : Locking Ratchet adjustment system and hardness adjustment
- 3) Design : With 3 stages adjustment on brow guard resting position
- 4) Maximum Weight : 350 grams (assembled brow guard and headgear)
- 5) Face Shield/Visor
 - a) Features : Anti-fog and Anti-Scratch
 - b) Standard Certification: CE EN166 or ANSI Z87
 - c) Color : Blue

b. **Surgical Gown – Sterile:** Single use/disposable - can include thumb-loop or cuffed gowns.

Description: Made of recognized materials for this product area which had considered flammability and should have bonded seams.

- 1) Protection Level : Level 4
- 2) Material : Poly reinforced
- 3) Cuff : Elastic and rib-knit cuff
- 4) Sizes : S, M, L, XL or equivalent
- 5) Features : Comfortable and Breathable
- 6) Standard Certification : ANSI / AAMI PB 70:2012 / BS EN 13795

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7) Style : The length must be mid-calf

- c. **Surgical Gown - Non-sterile:** Single use/disposable or reusable (in line with the manufacturer's intended use).

Description: Made of recognized materials for this product area which had considered flammability and should have bonded seams.

- 1) Protection Level : Level 2
- 2) Material : SMS Non-woven fabric
- 3) Cuff : Elastic and rib-knit cuff
- 4) Sizes : S, M, L, XL or its equivalent
- 5) Features : Comfortable and Breathable
- 6) Standard Certification : ANSI/AAMI PB 70:2012/BS EN 13795
- 7) Style : The length must be mid-calf

- d. **Disposable Half Mask Respirators (N95)**

Description: The mask covers the nose and mouth and the chin. The mask consists entirely or substantially of filter material.

- 1) Style : Have 2 elastic straps (may be adjustable) that go around the head and neck.
- 2) Features : Inhalation and exhalation valve
- 3) Filtration Efficiency : 95%
- 4) Standard Certification : ISO 9001 or BS EN 13485 or equivalent

- e. **Surgical Face Mask (Level 3)**

Description: Designed to prevent infections and shed personnel from bacteria liquid droplets and aerosols from the wearer's mouth and nose.

- 1) Level: 3
- 2) Barrier Test
 - a. Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) : ≥98%
 - b. Particle Filtration Efficiency (PFE) : ≥98%
 - c. Splash Resistance Pressure : 160 mm Hg

- 3) Safety Test Flammability: Class 1
- 4) Physical Test Differential Pressure: $<5.0\text{mm H}_2\text{O}/\text{cm}^2$
- 5) Test Method: ASTM
- 6) Certification Requirement: FDA or equivalent
- 7) Expiration date:

f. **Surgical Gloves – Sterile:** Single use/disposable - powder-free

Description: Made of well-established materials. Should have long cuffs, reaching well above the wrist.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1) Materials | : Polyisoprene, Polychloroprene, Nitrile, Latex or Neoprene |
| 2) Length | : Small, Medium, Large |
| 3) Features | : Easy donning and powder free |
| 4) Performance Equivalent | : BS EN ISO 374-2 or ASTM D6319 or |
| 5) Standard Certification | : US FDA, ISO 9001, BS EN 13485 |

7. EFFECTIVITY:

This MC shall take effect after 15 days from filing a copy thereof at the UP Law Center in consonance with Section 3, Chapter 2, Book VII of Executive Order 292 otherwise known as the "Revised Administrative Code of 1987," as amended.

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[Signature]
ARCHIE FRANCISCO F GAMBOA
Police General
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