



Reprocessing

FFP2 & FFP3 Protective masks

It has been noted that many European countries have advised medical personnel that due to the severe lack of protective FFP2 & FFP3 face masks it is possible to re-use these types of masks. To re-use the masks it is advised that the masks are first lightly cleaned using warm water and a mild detergent. ***Heavily soiled masks must not be re-used and should be disposed of accordingly.***

Once the mask has been washed and thoroughly rinsed with clean water to remove any excess detergent it can be placed in the autoclave as shown in the image above.

It is recommended that the masks are sterilised on a 134B (Vacuum cycle). Please note; that caution should be exercised as not all FFP2 & FFP3 Protective masks can be sterilised without affecting the overall shape and performance. It is recommended that trials should be carried out with individual masks before committing to cleaning and sterilising larger numbers of masks.

Key points:

- Sterilise a FFP2 & FFP3 mask no more than 3 times only. Discard after the third use.
- Heavily soiled masks should be discarded and not re-used
- A simple identification method should be adopted and implemented to ensure traceability and the number of times a mask has been sterilised.
- Always carry out a trial/test run on a single mask before commencing with larger batches. It is also advised that this should be carried out when switching between different manufactures of masks.