

Workshop on PPE for Healthcare Workers in the Event of Pandemic Influenza: Panel 5: Identifying and Certifying Effective PPE-Next Steps

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Z88 Accredited Standards Committee: Respiratory Protection

The scope of the Z88 Committee is to develop safe practices and requirements for using respirators for the protection of the respiratory system from the inhalation of particulate matter, oxygen deficiencies, noxious gases and vapors as well as programs, practices, procedures and equipment related to industrial respiratory protection.

A current standard under development within Z88 will be of value to the health care workers.

Z88.12 Respiratory Protection for Infectious Aerosols
Respirator program significance



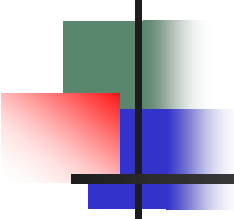
Next Steps and Key Challenges in Improving Standards & Certification

- Revise the rest of 42 CFR Part 84 respirator testing and certification requirements using the rulemaking process **-TIME-**
 - Complete Total Inward Leakage Module ASAP
- Integrate key requirements of PPE Standards
 - Address interface issues
- Involve more end users in the process
- Educate end users



Type of Post Certification and Surveillance -Key Challenges-

- Expand finished product purchase and testing program for PPE and respirators
- Evaluate PPE performance after use
- Establish a friendly system to report worker PPE performance problems for analysis and follow up



Health Care Workers Retail Purchase of Respirators and PPE

-Type of Controls?-

- Hazard analysis of health care work activities
 - Liquid droplet, 3 foot rule?
 - Exposure sampling
 - Identification of respirators and PPE required to do the specific work activity safely
- Education of health care workers on the selection and proper use of PPE and respirators



A Paradyme Shift is Needed !

- Respirators and PPE **are not the last resort** to control infectious spread
- They will play a critical role in protecting health care workers and the general public during an influenza pandemic
- Proper integration and use of respirators and PPE need to be recognized as an important part of the work control process required to do health care work safely



In Conclusion

- Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Institute of Medicine Workshop, on PPE for Healthcare Workers in the Event of Pandemic Influenza: Next Steps and Research Directions
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