Welcome to the National Institutes of Health Safetycasts in a Minute.”

In this episode, we will discuss the Respiratory Protection Program or RPP here at the NIH.

Do you wear a respirator at work? If so, you need to be enrolled in the Respiratory Protection Program and complete three requirements.

Federal Regulatory standards issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration or OSHA at 29 CFR Part 1910.134 and the NIH Safety Policies have three requirements.

The completion of medical clearance from Occupational Medical Service or OMS, respirator training, and respirator fit testing.
All NIH employees who are required to use a respirator at work must be medically cleared by Occupational Medical Service.

Online respirator protection training must be completed upon initial enrollment in the Respiratory Protection Program.

In addition, fit testing is required if you wear an N-95 respirator.

Online training needs to be repeated every 12 months to maintain compliance with OSHA respiratory protection requirements.
There are many potential respiratory hazards associated with our clinical, research and facilities maintenance environments.

[Beam from left to right with drawing of man using respirator with words: “Safe Science is Good Science.” “Important!” “Follow the rules!” “Avoid Exposure!” “Be Responsible!”]

It is important that we ensure the safety of all NIH researchers, clinicians and employees who use respirators.

By practicing safe science, we can continue to make medical breakthroughs here at the NIH.


To download the NIH Respiratory Protection Program in pdf format, please go to http://go.usa.gov/xDtEG.


For more detailed information on the Respiratory Protection Program, please contact the Technical Assistance Branch of the Division of
Occupational Health and Safety at 301-496-2960 or on line at

http://go.usa.gov/xDtwa.