

# First FDA-Cleared Respirators for General Public Use in Public Health Medical Emergencies Now Available from 3M

Consumers concerned about an influenza outbreak can breathe a little easier: 3M has just released two new NIOSH N95 respirators for use by the general public in public health medical emergencies.

These two respirators—3M™ Particulate Respirator 8612F and 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8670F—are unique because they are the first to receive clearance by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to reduce exposure to airborne germs during a public health medical emergency such as an influenza pandemic. The FDA outlined a special clearance process for N95 respirators used by the general public in public health medical emergencies in order to provide reasonable assurance of their safety and effectiveness.

Although use of respirators is only one of several precautions that can be taken in response to a public health medical emergency, “The release of these FDA-N95 respirators is a significant step in providing the public with guidance and products needed to help reduce exposure to airborne germs,” said Julie Bushman, division vice-president, 3M Occupational Health and Environmental Safety Division.

According to Bushman, 3M is taking steps to ensure the respirators are readily available to the public. “The need has grown as more people realize the importance of planning ahead for a public health medical emergency,” Bushman said.

3M™ Particulate Respirator 8612F and 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8670F can be purchased from one of the many medical, safety and industrial distributors that carry 3M products. Additionally, these new products will be available under the Nexcare™ brand in select retail pharmacies. Both products can also be purchased from the company’s online store, [www.3MeStore.com](http://www.3MeStore.com), or by calling 1-800-234-8068.

For technical information about proper use of these 3M respirators, visit [www.my3MN95.com](http://www.my3MN95.com) or call 1-888-436-3636.

## About 3M

A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M’s core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$25 billion in sales, 3M employs 75,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries.

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