

SURGICAL DISPOSABLE FACE MASK

ASTM F1862: THE NEW STANDARD FOR FLUID-RESISTANT PROTECTION

ASTM recently issued new guidelines for performance of medical face masks, including a requirement for fluid resistance and particulate filtration for even a Level 1 mask. ASTM F1862 standards also call for mask packaging to be clearly labelled with the level of protection in one of three levels: 1, 2, or 3. This new standard reinforces the importance of labelling to identify protection levels, based on fluid resistance, filtration, and breathability. ASTM F1862 is recognized by the FDA as the standard for medical face masks.

GUARDIAN	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
	For procedures with LOW TO LIGHT Amount of Fluid, Spray, And/or Aerosol	For procedures with LIGHT TO MODERATE Amount of Fluid, Spray, And/or Aerosol	For procedures with MODERATE TO HIGH Amount of Fluid, Spray, And/or Aerosol
FLUID RESISTANCE	80 mm Hg	120 mm Hg	160 mm Hg
BACTERIAL FILTRATION EFFICIENCY	BFE≥95%	BFE≥98%	BFE≥98%
PARTICLE FILTRATION EFFICIENCY	PFE≥95%	PFE≥98%	PFE≥98%
BREATHABILITY-∆P	<4.0 mm H ₂ O/cm ²	<5.0 mm H ₂ O/cm ²	<5.0 mm H ₂ O/cm ²
FLAME SPREAD	CLASS 1	CLASS 1	CLASS 1