

KN95 Mask Maintenance

1. With normal use, a single KN95 mask issued by UCA should last 2 to 6 weeks depending on the individual circumstances and environment.
 - a. When worn intermittently throughout the day, each mask should last 4-6 weeks
 - b. When worn constantly or for the majority of the day, each mask may only last 2 weeks.
 - c. When unavoidably exposed to very humid environments or unexpected moisture such as rain or snow, the mask may become quickly damaged and may need to be replaced within a few days.
 - d. When the mask no longer fits snugly along the face, when the elastic bands start wearing out, or when the mask starts falling below the nose, these are all signs that the mask needs replaced.

2. When possible, alternate masks every 2 to 3 days to provide adequate time for drying and to allow any virus potentially trapped within the fibers of the mask to degrade.
 - a. The mask is best stored by allowing it to remain in the open air. Placing it on a desktop, bookshelf, dresser top or hanging it on a wall hook are all good methods. When doing so, it should be kept away from the public to prevent others from mistakenly touching it.
 - b. When leaving the mask open to dry is not possible, storing it in a breathable paper bag is recommended.
 - c. Storing the mask in a plastic container or plastic bag is not recommended. Doing so reduces optimal drying which accelerates mask degradation. It also increases the survival time of any potential virus trapped within the mask.
 - d. Each bag should be properly marked with your name on it so others won't mistakenly use it.