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Comparison Chart

for the new CSA Standard
(CA-N95) vs NIOSH (N95)
for Respirators.



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The guidance includes the same technical specifications as NIOSH but with improvements and additional Canadian requirements.

- Health Canada

Comparison Chart

for the new CSA Standard (CA-N95) vs NIOSH (N95) for Respirators.



Comparison Chart				
Respirator Requirements	NIOSH 42 CFR 84 Standard	CSA Z94.4.2:21 Standard	Q100 Features	Q100 Advantages
Inhalation/Maximum Resistance of Breathing, Pa	≤343 Pa-No requirement to mark or inform user of the degree of inhalation breathing resistance.	3 levels of breathability, from more difficult breathability/higher resistance levels to easier breathability/lower resistance levels. ≤343 Pa (35 mm H ₂ O) ≤175 Pa (17.8mm H ₂ O) ≤100Pa (10.2mm H ₂ O)	≤100Pa (10.2mm H ₂ O) vs NIOSH standard of ≤343 Pa	The Q100 Respirator achieved the lowest inhalation resistance of the three CSA categories making the Q100 up to four times more breathable than other NIOSH approved respirators.
Exhalation/Maximum Resistance of Breathing, Pa	≤245 Pa-No requirement to mark or inform user of the degree of exhalation breathing resistance.	3 levels of breathability, from more difficult breathability/higher resistance levels to easier breathability/lower resistance levels. ≤245 Pa (25mm H ₂ O) ≤175Pa (17.8mm H ₂ O) ≤100Pa (10.2mm H ₂ O)	≤100Pa (10.2mm H ₂ O) vs NIOSH standard of ≤245 Pa	The Q100 Respirator achieved the lowest exhalation resistance of the three CSA categories making the Q100 up to four times more breathable than other NIOSH approved respirators.
Inhalation/Exhalation Resistance	No requirement to mark or inform the user of the degree of inhalation/exhalation breathing resistance.	Requirement to add a suffix to the particulate filtration designation to inform users if the inhalation/exhalation testing falls within 3 levels of breathability.	Q100 achieves 100 Pa/100 Pa which is clearly labelled on the product.	Labelling allows wearers to be certain that the Q100 Respirator received the highest standard for inhalation and exhalation.
Fit Testability	No definition for single-use respirators, isoamyl acetate qualitative test for others.	Quantitative fit test method for all respirator types other than loose-fitting PAPRs.	The Q100 is CSA certified using more stringent quantitative method.	Quantitative testing is more accurate than qualitative testing used by NIOSH. Qualitative testing is subjective and may lead to incorrect test fit results.
Filter Classification	N/A	CA-N95F-100Pa CA-N95-100Pa CA-N95F-175Pa CA-N95-175Pa CA-N95F- 343Pa CA-N95- 343Pa	CA-N95F-100Pa	The Q100 Respirator received the highest standard for breathability (100 Pa/100 Pa) which is now visible to customers. NIOSH certification only requires the minimum CSA standard of 343 Pa/245 Pa, with no visibility to the level achieved.
Shelf Life	Not required	Designation and validation of shelf life for filters and integrated respirators, optional for other components.	3 years from the manufacturing date.	The Q100 Respirator exceeds the highest CSA standards for designation and validation of shelf life. There is no NIOSH requirement for shelf life.
Particle Size	0.075 µm CMD (GSD <1.86)	0.075 µm CMD (GSD <1.86)	0.075 µm CMD (GSD <1.86)	Equivalent to NIOSH
Particle Concentration	<200 mg/m ³	<200 mg/m ³	<200 mg/m ³	Equivalent to NIOSH
Flow Rate	85 L/min	85 L/min	85 L/min	Equivalent to NIOSH
Fluid Resistance	FDA Clearance for surgical use (including fluid/flammability testing) is additional to 42 CFR 84.	Fluid/flammable resistance is included as a respirator class.	F Class, Fluid resistance.	Equivalent to NIOSH
Test Agency	NaCL	NaCL	NaCL	Equivalent to NIOSH
Filter Efficiency	≥95.00%	≥95.00%	≥95.00%	≥95.00%