

MEMO

Date: November 10, 2020
To: Service Delivery Organizations
From: Provincial Supply Chain Management
Re: Technologist Choice Procedure Masks **Recall**

Concerns have been raised related to the use of Technologist Choice brand procedure masks.

Please note the following information and guidance:

- **Out of an abundance of caution, all Technology Choice brand masks currently in circulation should be pulled from existing stock.**
- All stock will be replaced with an alternate product. Please work through your normal procurement and distribution channels.
- Replacement supplies are anticipated to be distributed before the end of the week.
- Facilities with alternate supply on hand may make the switch immediately.
- Those without alternate supply on hand should be provided with reassurance that the existing procedure masks remain acceptable for use until an alternate supply has been received later this week.
- 2009 Technologist Choice Brand Procedure Masks have been in use during the COVID-19 pandemic both within Manitoba's health system and in other sectors. While these masks were procured for the purposes of H1N1 in 2009/10, they have been stored in temperature controlled warehouses and were approved for distribution in spring 2020 following an OESH/IPC review.
- A further review of these masks occurred in June/July 2020 following concerns raised by staff about skin irritation. While the masks were deemed acceptable for use it was noted that certain individuals may experience skin irritation. As a result, skin injury processes were developed and alternate supplies were identified for those unable to wear the Technology Choice brand.
 - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-ppe-skin-injury-grg.pdf>
 - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-ppe-and-skin-injuries-internal-oh-process.pdf>