

PRACTICE ALERT: MEDICAL IMAGING

Risk of Masks Being MR Unsafe

Date: May 20, 2020

SITUATION/BACKGROUND

Current standards for personal protective equipment (PPE) does not include checking for MRI compatibility. During this pandemic, the supply of PPE has been changing, thus current products are being replaced with new ones.

It was found that the nose bridge of some Medicom-branded procedure masks (comes in various colours) was ferromagnetic. If the mask is near the bore of the MRI scanner (1.5 and 3T), the nose piece may be attracted to the magnetic field. In these situations, there may be a gap between the mask and face.

The following Medicom masks, #2133 (Yellow-ASTM 1) and #2150 (White-ASTM 3), are ferromagnetic.



ACTION/RECOMMENDATION

1. Remove Medicom SafeBasics #2133 (Yellow-ASTM1) and #2150 (White-ASTM3) masks immediately
2. All Medicom-branded procedure masks must be tested with a strong handheld magnet (>1000 gauss) prior to use in the MRI environment
3. If the nose bridge of the procedure mask is ferromagnetic, the product is removed immediately from the MRI department
4. The product is flagged and communicated to the MRI supervisor, Site Coordinator and MRI Regional Practice Lead
5. A product investigation should be submitted to PHSA by the Site Coordinator in collaboration with the MRI Regional Practice Lead

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Sam Yim, MRI Regional Practice Lead
Lower Mainland Medical Imaging
samuel.yim2@vch.ca

Issued by Lower Mainland Medical Imaging

LOWER MAINLAND MEDICAL IMAGING

PLEASE POST