

Avon APR Disinfecting Standard Operating Procedure

NOTICE: For the proper operation of the Avon APR Facepieces and the maximum protection for users, the following procedures must be performed when disinfecting the APR Facepieces. The procedure described in this notification and on the User Instructions Manual for the specific facepiece needs to be followed. The procedure is our general advice as manufacturer based on best practice but that the guidance and direction provided by local infection control, health and safety or healthcare professionals should take precedence.

Avon Protection would like to remind users about the recommended cleaning procedures when using the Avon Protection Air Purifying Respirator (APR) during a possible Coronavirus (COVID-19) deployment. While the CDC recommends that users use a NIOSH-approved particulate respirator, an Avon Protection APR with approved Avon Protection filter will protect the wearer to $\geq 99.97\%$ efficiency.

Per the CDC, The minimum PPE recommended is:

- A single pair of disposable examination gloves,
- Disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls*,
- Any NIOSH-approved particulate respirator (i.e., N-95 or higher-level respirator), and
- Eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face)

*If unable to wear a disposable gown or coveralls because it limits access to duty belt and gear, ensure duty belt and gear are disinfected after contact with individual. (cdc.gov)

Although the mask and filter will protect the wearers respiratory system, the outside of the mask and filter will require cleaning after any use or exposure. Cleaning the mask correctly is vital for maintaining its effectiveness in providing the best possible protection.

It is recommended that the following procedure be done with a gloved hand and a non-bleach cleaner be used on any Avon APR. Consult the Avon Protection user manual for further details.

Step by Step Disinfecting Process

- If exposed to COVID-19, remove the used canister from the Respirator facepiece and dispose properly in accordance with any local health and safety regulations (If the canister becomes water logged then it must be replaced immediately. A canister becomes ineffective if immersed in, or heavily soaked with water)
- Remove the communications lead, microphone assembly and voice projection unit, if attached
- Remove the protective hood if attached
- Disengage the drink coupler from its housing and from around the VREU main body (if applicable)
- Immerse the mask in warm water containing a diluted Hibitane solution (1/2000 dilution of a 5% solution is normal), a mild baby-type non-allergic soap solution or other Avon approved product. (do not use a bleach base solution)
- Agitate the mask in this solution, wiping with a soft, lint-free cloth (face cloth) particularly under the main seal and inner mask
- Remove the mask and shake off the excess solution
- Remove the air deflectors and inlet disk valves
- Remove the vision correction frame and outserts, if fitted
- Immerse the mask in clean warm water ensuring that all trace of solution is removed



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- Lift out the mask and shake off excess water, then dry with clean, lint-free dry cloth, or air dry
- Separately clean the vision correction system and outsert, if fitted
- To clean the hydration system (if applicable), fill a canteen with a sterilizing solution and attach to the drink coupler. Open drink valve and allow solution to run through and out of the internal drink tube. Repeat with clean water
- Replace the inlet disk valve(s) and air deflectors, ensuring they are properly aligned
- Take extra care that the fabric head harness is dry before final stowage
- Replace the mask components and store ready for use

List of EPA approved CDC cleaning items can be found here.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html>

Any question or concern, please contact Avon Protection Customer Service at:

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Follow your agencies cleaning and disinfecting SOP's as they are inline with the Avon cleaning instructions.

It is not yet determined the survival time of the COVID-19 virus on soft or hard surfaces. Any surface that the mask, filter, or your gear touches should also be disinfected following your agencies SOP.

The CDC defines Cleaning and Disinfecting as the following;

- Cleaning refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- Disinfecting refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

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What law enforcement personnel need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The outbreak first started in China, but cases have been identified in a growing number of other areas, including the United States.

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness.

- Data suggests that symptoms may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Symptoms can include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath.
- The virus causing COVID-19 is called SARS-CoV-2. It is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets among close contacts. Respiratory droplets are produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes and can land in the mouths or noses, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs, of people who are nearby.
 - Close contact increases your risk for COVID-19, including:
 - » Being within approximately 6 feet of an individual with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time.
 - » Having direct contact with body fluids (such as blood, phlegm, and respiratory droplets) from an individual with COVID-19.

To protect yourself from exposure

- **If possible, maintain a distance of at least 6 feet.**
- **Practice proper hand hygiene.**
Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available and illicit drugs are NOT suspected to be present, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Have a trained Emergency Medical Service/Emergency Medical Technician (EMS/EMT) assess and transport anyone you think might have COVID-19 to a healthcare facility.
- Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19.
- Learn your employer's plan for exposure control and participate in all-hands training on the use of PPE for respiratory protection, if available.

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Law enforcement who must make contact with individuals confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should follow CDC's Interim Guidance for EMS. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html>.

Different styles of PPE may be necessary to perform operational duties. These alternative styles (i.e., coveralls) must provide protection that is at least as great as that provided by the minimum amount of PPE recommended.

The minimum PPE recommended is:

- A single pair of disposable examination gloves,
- Disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls*,
- Any NIOSH-approved particulate respirator (i.e., N-95 or higher-level respirator), and
- Eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face).

*If unable to wear a disposable gown or coveralls because it limits access to duty belt and gear, ensure duty belt and gear are disinfected after contact with individual.

If close contact occurred during apprehension

- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear prior to reuse using a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the product label.
- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.
- Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes. Avoid shaking the clothes.

For law enforcement personnel performing daily routine activities, the immediate health risk is considered low. Law enforcement leadership and personnel should follow CDC's Interim General Business Guidance. Search "Interim Guidance for Businesses" on www.cdc.gov.

