

# AS 4381:2015 – UNDERSTANDING THE NEW AUSTRALIAN MASK STANDARD

In December 2015, Standards Australia published an updated version of the standard for 'Single-use face masks for use in health care'. The objective was to simplify the standard and harmonise with the North American ASTM F2100-11 and European (EN) 14683.

## NEW STANDARD AS 4381:2015 (RED INDICATES CHANGE)

AS 4381: 2015 SINGLE-USE FACE MASKS				
CHARACTERISTICS	LEVEL 1 <b>1</b>	LEVEL 2 <b>2</b>	LEVEL 3 <b>3</b>	TEST METHOD
	<p>Level 1 barrier medical face mask materials are evaluated for resistance to penetration by synthetic blood at the minimum velocity specified in Table 2, bacterial filtration efficiency and differential pressure.</p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS:</b> For general purpose medical procedures, where the wearer is not at risk of blood or bodily fluid splash or to protect staff and/or the patient from droplet exposure to microorganisms (e.g. patient with upper respiratory tract infection visits GP)</p>	<p>Level 2 barrier medical face mask materials are evaluated for resistance to penetration by synthetic blood at the middle velocity specified in Table 2, bacterial filtration efficiency and differential pressure.</p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS:</b> For use in emergency departments, dentistry, changing dressings on small or healing wounds where minimal blood droplet exposure may possibly occur (e.g. endoscopy procedures)</p>	<p>Level 3 barrier medical face mask materials are evaluated for resistance to penetration by synthetic blood at the maximum velocity specified in Table 2, bacterial filtration efficiency and differential pressure.</p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS:</b> For all surgical procedures, major trauma first aid or in any area where the health care worker is at risk of blood or bodily fluid splash (e.g. orthopaedic, cardiovascular procedures)</p>	
Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) %	≥ 95%	≥ 98%	≥ 98%	ASTM F2101-14 or EN 14683:2014
Particulate Filtration Efficiency (PFE) % (0.1 µm)	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	N/A
Differential Pressure (Delta P) mm H <sub>2</sub> O/cm <sup>2</sup>	< 4.0	< 5.0	< 5.0	EN 14683:2014
Resistance to penetration by synthetic blood (fluid resistance) min pressure in mm Hg for pass result	80mm Hg	120mm Hg	160mm Hg	ASTM F1862 / F1862M-13 or ISO 22609

# HALYARD\* FLUIDSHIELD\* PROTECTION

All HALYARD\* FLUIDSHIELD\* Masks meet the new Australian Standard AS 4381:2015, and are available in Levels 1, 2, and 3.

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
<p>CODE: 25868 Procedure Mask, with Earloops</p> 	<p>CODE: 39123 Surgical Mask, Expanded Chamber, with Ties</p> 	<p>CODE: 47107 Fog-Free Procedure Mask, SO SOFT*, with Earloops</p> 
	<p>CODE: 62113 Fog-Free Surgical Mask, with Ties</p> 	<p>CODE: 47147 Fog-Free Procedure Mask, SO SOFT*, Wraparound Visor, with Earloops</p> 
	<p>CODE: 62114 Fog-Free Surgical Mask with Wraparound Visor, with Ties</p> 	<p>CODE: 48207 Fog-Free Surgical Mask, with Ties</p> 
		<p>CODE: 48208 Surgical Mask, with Ties</p> 
		<p>CODE: 48247 Fog-Free Surgical Mask with Wraparound Visor, with Ties</p> 
		<p>CODE: 48248 Surgical Mask with Wraparound Visor, with Ties</p> 
		<p>CODE: 48297 Care Bear Surgical Mask, with Ties</p> 

With the level of protection clearly labelled on the mask nose piece and on the box, you and your staff can easily identify the right mask for each task.

