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## OPERATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin #	Title		Date Issued
#2020-04-18-01	Warning Regarding Counterfeit KN95 Masks		April 18, 2020
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None	Maine EMS	Maine EMS	1
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In recent weeks, due to shortages of N95 respirators, the U.S. FDA approved the use of KN95 and other alternative respirators. However, officials have discovered that counterfeit KN95 respirators have flooded the marketplace. Additionally, some KN95 respirators that were pulled for random testing have failed to meet performance standards.

You should discontinue the use of KN95 and other alternative respirators until you can confirm their authenticity against the FDA’s list of approved alternatives to N95 respirators. You should also verify their performance through fit-testing if you haven’t done so already.

- The authenticity of a respirator can be verified by checking the FDA’s emergency use authorization list (this document is being updated regularly with respirators that meet the FDA’s eligibility criteria): <https://www.fda.gov/media/136663/download>
- You may also wish to check NIOSH’s website for additional information about approved and unapproved respirators and masks (this page contains an extensive list of known counterfeit respirators and masks): <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html>
- Learn more about the FDA’s eligibility criteria for alternatives to N95 respirators: <https://www.fda.gov/media/136664/download>

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