



# Installing the probe

Quantitative fit testing uses a machine to assess the effectiveness of the respirator seal against the wearer's face.

To perform a quantitative fit test the Portacount machine must draw an air sample from inside the respirator while it is being worn by the person being fit tested. The fit tester must install a probe which allows the tubing to attach the respirator to the PortaCount.

For proper fit testing, the sampling point must:

- be in the 'breathing zone' of the respirator wearer. For most respirators this is in the centre of the respirator between the person's nose and mouth.
- not be blocked by the person's chin or nose
- avoid seams and folds
- face away from the outer surface of the respirator to attach to the tubing.

Fit testers must ensure appropriate hand hygiene principles are followed when placing the probe.

Images are provided below as a guide only.

## Essity BSN (Proshield)



## 3m 1870+ (Aura), Trident, Softmed and Care Essentials CareFIT



## 3M 1860 and 3M 1860s



## Halyard



**Note:** Once a probe has been installed the respirator cannot be used for respiratory protection. As P2 and N95 respirators are single use, they must only be used to fit test one person. Respirators must be discarded after fit testing.

\*For more information see PortaCount Model 8048 Operation/User Manual

**Fit testing does not replace fit checking which must be done every time a respirator is used.**

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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