

Pembroke Regional Hospital

MEMO

To: All Staff and Physicians
From: Infection Control and Occupational Health & Safety
Date: November 8, 2022
Subject: PPE – Facial Hair and Movember

November is a month for a popular fundraiser known as Movember. Many employees at PRH choose to participate in this fundraiser, and we are open to people raising funds for this worthwhile cause.

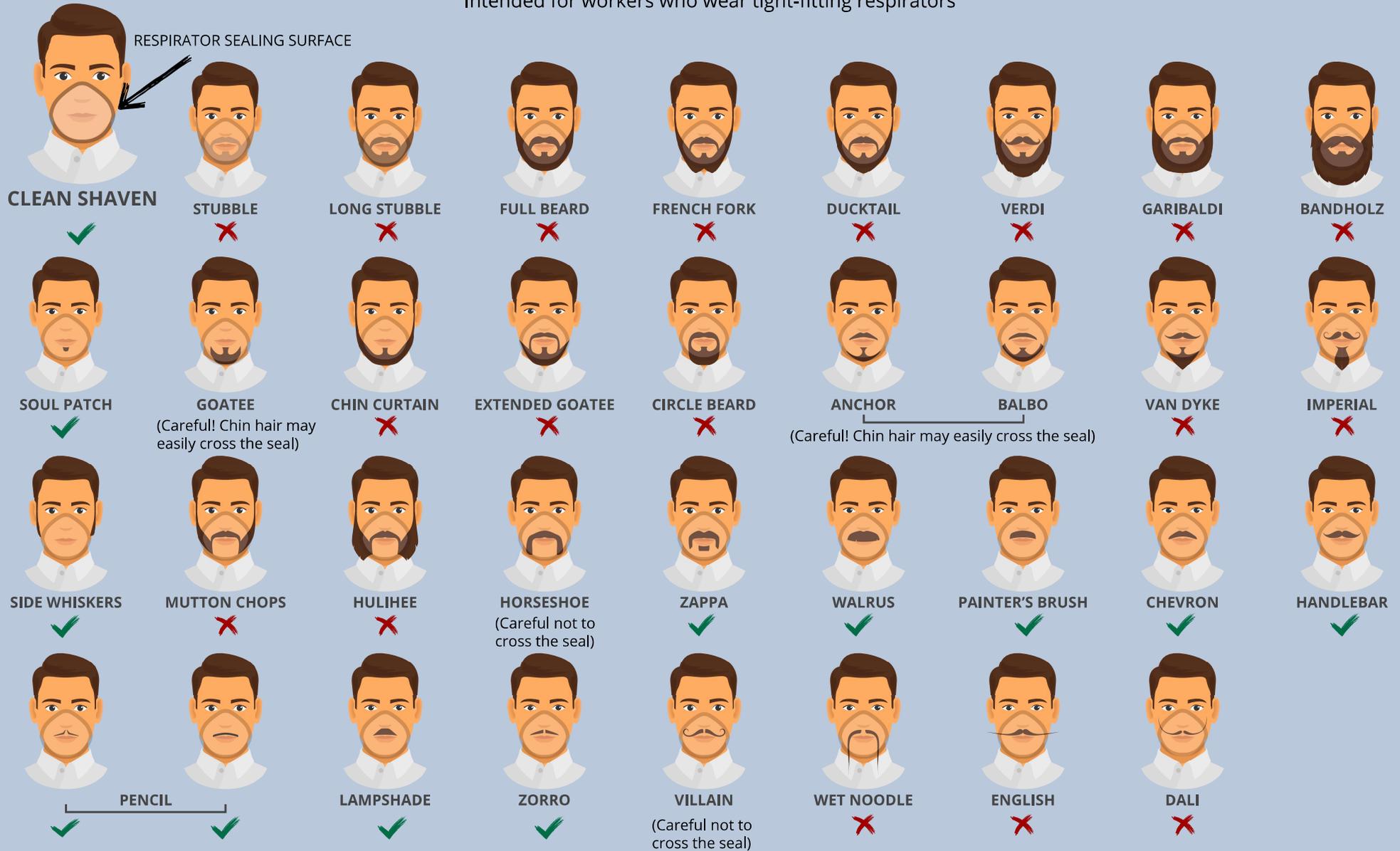
Please note if you are participating in Movember to be considerate of the style of facial hair that you grow. As you are aware some facial hair has a negative impact on the effectiveness of your mask and/or respirator. This does not mean that you can't participate, but we kindly ask that you refer to the below info-graphic to choose which type of facial hair is less likely to cause an issue with your PPE.

You never know in advance when your assignment, patient risk assessment, responding to a code or finding your unit suddenly on outbreak status requires you to don a N95. In any of those situations, you don't have time to break away and shave!

Being clean shaven to be able to wear a respirator doesn't mean you can't have facial hair. There are a number of styles that are compatible with respirators. So grow your Zappa, Painter's Brush or Villain and participate in Movember!

Facial Hairstyles and Filtering Facepiece Respirators

Intended for workers who wear tight-fitting respirators



*If your respirator has an exhalation valve, some of these styles may interfere with the valve working properly if the facial hair comes in contact with it.
 †This graphic may not include all types of facial hairstyles. For any style, hair should not cross under the respirator sealing surface.
 Source: OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard
https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=standards&p_id=12716
 Further Reading: NIOSH Respirator Trusted-Source Webpage
https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nppt/topics/respirators/disp_part/respsource3fittest.html



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health