



## O2 Nose Filters for Aerosol Protection for You and Your Patients

**We are excited to announce a new product you can purchase at [QuickSplint.com](https://www.QuickSplint.com)!**

It's time to take serious measures to control the risk for both dental professionals and patients around aerosol management in the dental office. The use of high-speed equipment, including scalers and drills, in the presence of bodily fluids such as saliva, blood, and plaque have been shown to create dental aerosols that contain microorganisms and blood.

Nose filters are a discreet, effective option to protect against airborne particulate matter created during dental procedures. The **O2 Nose Filter** uses electrostatic technology from 3M to capture allergens, viruses, and other particulates, making them a valuable addition to your current preventative practices for your dental professionals and your patients. The **O2 Nose Filter** is designed to be worn for up to 12 hours and is nearly invisible. You can easily wear the **O2 Nose Filter** inside your dental mask. Staff can offer the **O2 Nose Filter** to patients and help find the appropriate size and fit inside both nostrils. Patients will appreciate the extra care your office provides to help protect patient health.

An aerosol is defined as a suspension of solid or liquid particles in a gas containing bacteria or viruses. The particle size of an aerosol is less than 50m, and airborne particles larger than this are considered spatter. Bacteria, blood elements, viruses, and particles of tooth, saliva, debris, and tissue can all make up solid and liquid aerosols. The severity of aerosol contamination can be affected by the health of a patient's saliva, blood, plaque, nose and throat mucus, and the presence of any infection.



O2 Nose Filters are sold at [QuickSplint.com](https://www.QuickSplint.com) or 800-760-0536

With over 700 species of bacteria, the mouth can harbor infectious strains that when aerosolized, can linger for up to 30 minutes in the air. Note that when a patient is dismissed, the next patient could be walking into aerosols produced by the previous patient.

When inhaled, dental aerosols can cause respiratory health effects or transmit bidirectional diseases. Respiratory infections among dentists have become more frequent, with symptoms related to the extremely contaminated air that is present within the environment.

Existing protective measures such as face masks also pose a risk for both dental professionals and their patients. Given that these masks are often in close proximity of the patient's face, further measures should be taken to minimize cross-contamination and ensure the masks are worn only for one patient and then discarded.

When viruses such as influenza circulate in the air, the potential for transmission increases considerably for vulnerable environments such as dental practices. Recently, a high number of emerging infections have shown to be those of the respiratory tract that are spread via droplets and aerosols. The ease of transmission allows these viruses the opportunity to spread rapidly, again making dental practices a high-risk environment.

Another highly contagious aerosol transmissible virus that dental practices must exercise extreme caution with is the measles. The measles virus lives in the mucus of infected people in their nose and throat. It is spread by coughing and sneezing and can survive for up to two hours in an environment where the infected person was. Measles can infect up to 90% of people in close proximity to an infected person. Merely breathing in the contaminated air or touching a surface that the harmful particulate matter settles on is enough to transmit the virus. Dental practices must be aware of breakouts within their local community and ensure thorough screening of patients when an outbreak occurs.

The **O2 Nose Filter** is sold in packages of 10 or 20 units and comes in 4 sizes. Sold at QuickSplint.com and patients can re-order O2 Nose Filters on Amazon. The **O2 Nose Filter** is also perfect to use as a nasal dilator, and to help a patient habituate to nose breathing.

## Resources

O2 Nose Filters\_Background and Mechanics

[https://www.buffalofilter.com/files/6314/2904/0016/Aerosols\\_and\\_Splatter\\_in\\_Dentistry.pdf](https://www.buffalofilter.com/files/6314/2904/0016/Aerosols_and_Splatter_in_Dentistry.pdf)

<https://decisionsindentistry.com/article/transmission-precautions-for-dental-aerosols/>

<https://academic.oup.com/occmed/article/68/7/454/5041979>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/4800859>

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