

Complication of N95 mask having adjustable clip

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Citation of this Article: Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Dr. Milan Soni, Dr. Vineeta Yadav, Dr. Shalini Pareek, “Complication of N95 mask having adjustable clip”, IJDSIR- December - 2021, Vol. – 4, Issue - 6, P. No. 158 – 159.

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Type of Publication: Technical Article

Conflicts of Interest: Nil

Introduction

World health organization (WHO) makes it essential for the general public and health care workers to wear mask for protection from the spread of Covid 19 disease [1]. Many complications reported in the literature which is associated with the continuous use of mask [2]. We here in report a case of a health care worker having Allergic contact dermatitis over the nose due to continuous wearing of the N95 mask which contains adjustable clip used for gripping the mask over the nose.

A health care worker associated with the departmental work presented with the chief complaint of itching and redness over the prominent part of the nose since 5 days. He gave the history of wearing the N95 mask having adjustable clip over it for more than 8 to 9 hours a day, and he often adjust the mask with the help of adjustable clip by pressing it over the nose.

On clinical examination redness noticed over the dorsum of the nose (Fig 1). The clinical examination and based on history of continuous wearing of mask, a clinical diagnosis of Allergic contact dermatitis was made. We advised the patient to avoid using the N95 mask directly over the nose and use surgical mask without pin first and N95 mask above it (Fig 2). We did not prescribe any gel application over it. After follow up on 7th post-operative day the patient was completely disease free.

Learning Points/Take Home Messages (2-3 bullet points) –

Significance: we should avoid the use of N95 having adjustable clip in sensitive patients. - **Learning value:** If we have to use such mask, always we should use double mask to avoid allergic reactions to the skin.

References

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Legend Figures



Figure 1: Photograph representing redness over the dorsum of nose



Figure 2: Patient with double mask