

EDEN HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER 20103 LAKE CHABOT RD. CASTRO VALLEY CALIFORNIA 94546-5367 510/537-1234

July 20, 1994

NIOSH DOCKET OFFICE Robert A. Taft Laboratories Mail Stop C343, 4678 Columbia Parkway Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

Dear Sirs,

As Infection Control Practitioners and members of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc., we support amending the standard for required respirators to protect health care workers from tuberculosis. Allowing 95% filter efficiency and broader options than the HEPA respirator is acceptable protection. Our experience with the HEPA respirator has been that it is cumbersome to wear while providing care for the patient, and has not provided any additional protection as documented by our PPD conversion history. The expense of the respirator should be considered relative to risk reduction.

Karen Faye RN / Linda Onstad RN Infection Control Practitioners

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