

USE CASE

Respirator Clearance Program



Compliance-Driven. Physician-Led. Built for Scale.

Summary

Acuity International designs and operates end-to-end respirator clearance programs that help employers meet OSHA requirements while protecting workers and keeping operations moving. We combine standardized medical evaluations, board-certified physician oversight, Clinical Services, mobile/onsite delivery, quantitative and qualitative fit testing, and unified reporting under one proven single-vendor model – tracked and shared via our mLink platform for real-time status and secure record transfer.

Industry: Multi-industry employers with compliance-driven Occupational Health needs such as manufacturing, construction, energy and utilities, transportation and logistics, healthcare, public safety (fire/EMS/law enforcement), laboratories and R&D, agriculture, wastewater, and mining (OSHA/MSHA).

Why it matters: According to CDC and OSHA guidelines: ~5 million U.S. workers are required to wear respirators on the job (e.g., miners, healthcare professionals, first responders); and ~2.3 million workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica – notably in construction and certain manufacturing operations..

Other respirator triggers include fumes, gases, and vapors such as asbestos fibers resulting in ~2,803 U.S. mesothelioma cases/yr. During 1993-2000, pesticide mists/vapors and chlorine gas accounted for 865 release events involving 1,071 victims – which can cause acute and chronic lung disease.

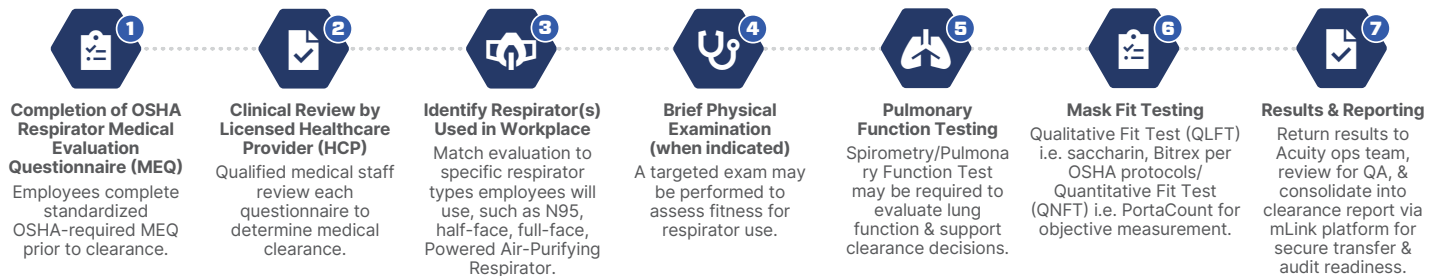
Challenge

Fragmented vendors, offsite inefficiencies, and inconsistent protocols slow cycle time and create compliance gaps. Manual scheduling and scattered records complicate audits, delay fit testing, and increase downtime for teams who need clearance to work.

Solution

Acuity standardizes respirator clearance across your footprint – pairing onsite/mobile teams and network clinics with physician review, digital workflows, and real-time dashboards. The result: consistent protocols, faster dispositions, and audit-ready documentation.

What's Included: Steps of a Respirator Clearance Program



Respirator Clearance in Action

Silica Exposure Crew (Construction Industry)

Situation

A multi-site contractor needed rapid respirator clearances and annual fit testing for crews cutting and drilling concrete under OSHA's silica rule.

Action

Acuity deployed mobile teams to perform MEQs, physician reviews, spirometry (when indicated), and same-day QLFT/QNFT; mLink platform provided real-time status and consolidated clearance documents for each worker.

Outcome

Crews were cleared and fit-tested within the project window, documentation was audit-ready for compliance checks, and schedule impacts were minimized.

**703.261.1110**

Ready for us to back up your team? Call us today!



Benefits



Faster clearance decisions with physician oversight and standardized protocols



Less downtime via onsite/mobile delivery and coordinated scheduling



Audit-ready documentation & unified records



Consistent quality and measurable program performance trend reporting

Program Overview

Industry	Typical Surveillance Programs
Manufacturing & Construction	Hazardous substances/exposures (e.g., metals, solvents), respiratory protection & spirometry, hearing conservation (audiometry), ergonomic & repetitive motion monitoring, bloodborne pathogens where applicable.
Energy, Utilities & Field Operations	Respiratory protection & fit testing, noise/hearing, heat stress monitoring, hazardous substance exposure monitoring, zoonotic and vector borne risks for outdoor crews (e.g., tick borne diseases) where relevant.
Healthcare & Laboratory	Bloodborne pathogens and immunizations; respirator use & spirometry; hazardous drug handling; sharps/needlestick follow up; ergonomics; infectious disease exposure response.
Public Safety (Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement)	Respiratory protection; hearing conservation; hazardous material and smoke/combustion byproduct exposures; infectious-disease and zoonotic exposures for field responders; visual, cardiovascular, and fitness-for-duty parameters per agency policy.

Cadence We Support

- Pre-placement (baseline) prior to respirator use and before any fit test.
- Periodic/Annual: OSHA requires fit testing at least annually, and whenever a new facepiece is used or facial/physical changes could affect fit.
- Post-incident/Exposure; Return-to-Work (RTW) with physician clearance as required.
- Trigger-based re-evaluations (symptoms, program/fit-test findings, workplace changes).
- OSHA requirements - clean-shaven policy (gender-neutral) - tight-fitting respirators must not be worn when facial hair is between the sealing surface and the face or interferes with valve function.

KPI Dashboard (What We Track For You)

- Average time-to-medical-clearance: **5 days**
- Fit-test pass rate (first attempt): **90-95%**
- Records audit-ready/completeness: **100%**
- Scheduling cycle time & lost-productivity reduction: **3 days & 100%**

Program Experience & Scale

- National and multi-site programs across diverse environments.
- Standardized exams with centralized QA and secure electronic record transfer.
- Robust provider network enabling onsite/mobile coverage and reduced travel.



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