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# Women's Range of PPE

Key challenge for Women in Industry

## Ill-Fitting PPE

*Research outcome done by Professor Lindiwe Zungu from UNISA*

- Available PPE was designed for the male population characteristics
- The misfit of PPE contributes to personal discomfort hindering performance and ultimately productivity, increases the risk of occupational injuries and ill-health
- The responsibility of employees to use PPE correctly cannot be achieved when using ill-fitting equipment
- An effort to cope with challenges of ill-fitting PPE increase health related risks
- Few facts about the difference between men and women's posture
- Women have smaller skulls than men on average. Ladies skulls are on average 1.3cm smaller than men.
- The presence of higher levels of testosterone gives men a thicker bone structure with more prominent bones. Male faces have a wider, more prominent jaw, chin and cheekbones.
- With regards to females, a large part of the course of development from child to adult involves the body preparing itself for childbirth. This major difference between men and women is the cause of the biggest hallmark feature of a female vs. male skeleton, the pelvis. In females, the pelvic bones are shorter and more rounded, and the surrounding bones (tailbone, remaining hip bones, etc.) are designed to be more flexible to accommodate gestation and child delivery.

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