

Mask Use Change FAQ and SBAR

Do I mask at the nursing station? Yes

My office is not in a building with any patients or visitors. Do I mask? No

What if I want to wear a mask? Please do

I must walk through the lobby to my work area where there are no patients or visitors. Do I mask? Yes, whenever you are in the lobby. No, if you are in your work area.

I work in the kitchen area. Do I mask? If your role in the kitchen puts you in sight of patients or visitors, then masking is required. In areas of the kitchen where visitors and patients are not allowed, masking is only required if it is part of your normal workflow for preparing foods.

I work in the lab, blood bank, and/or pharmacy. Do I mask? Masking is only required if you are in an area with patients and visitors.

Do I mask if I work in an ambulatory/outpatient facility? Yes, while you are in areas where patients/visitors may be present. No, when you are in break rooms, private offices, or conference rooms.

I am holding a meeting in a conference room within the hospital. The door to the conference room is closed. Are masks required? No, if you are in the conference room. Yes, when you leave the conference room and enter a public hallway if patients/visitors may be present.

I work in sterile processing. Do I mask? Yes, when you are in areas where masks are required by policy and in hallways or areas where patients/visitors may be present.

I am a school nurse. Do I mask? Yes, if masking is required by the school system. Masks are optional in this setting if not required by the school system.

I am a registration person. Do I mask? Yes, whenever you are in areas where patients/visitors may be present. No, if you are in break and lunchrooms.

Do I wear a mask on hospital intercampus/parking transportation shuttles? No

Do I mask while walking outside on hospital property? No

Mask Use Change SBAR

S: Change in mask use requirements on Wednesday March 22nd, 2023.

B: Mandatory masking was instituted in 2020 as a method to decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

A: This change is being made with careful consideration of the decreasing level of COVID-19 transmission in the community, an increasing level of immunity across the population, and the availability of effective treatment.

R:

1. Mask use is optional in all areas of YNHHS which are not designated for patient or visitor use. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Auditoriums, conference rooms, and closed-door charting rooms
 - Lunch/break rooms
 - Office spaces
 - Administrative offices
 - Hospital intercampus/parking shuttles
2. Mask remains a requirement in all clinical/patient care areas and areas accessible to visitors throughout YNHHS. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Lobbies, reception areas, and waiting rooms
 - Hallways and elevators serving clinical/patient care areas
 - Charting areas located in hallways
 - Cafés shared by patients and visitors (masks may be temporarily removed while actively eating or drinking)
 - Patient rooms and treatment rooms
3. If rates of COVID-19 transmission significantly increase, the requirement for mask use in all areas may be re-instated.