

In alignment with CDC guidance, below are our current masking practices that keep you safe.

NOTE: Always follow the precautions listed on isolation and procedure rooms. The masking guidance below is secondary to these precautions.

Safe Masking Practices

- DO choose the right mask for the right task
- ALWAYS wear your mask properly, covering your nose and mouth
- DO remove your mask completely from your face for taking sips of drinks
- DON'T double mask or wear masks incorrectly
- Masks/N95s may be worn continuously for more than one patient in some circumstances. Please refer to COVID-19 Toolkit for detailed [PPE use guidance](#)
- DON'T store and reuse procedure or N95 masks. If removed from your face for more than a short drink, discard the mask and obtain a new one

Mask Use and Choices



Cloth Face Coverings

- Can be used continuously in non-patient care locations only (e.g. corporate offices, other non-patient care business locations); must be worn continuously
- Can be used to enter and exit patient care locations when reporting to or leaving work. Must be changed to a procedure mask upon arrival to department



Procedure Mask

- Continuous mask for ALL staff in patient care locations
- Worn during all routine patient care unless other PPE is required according to isolation sign on patient door
- Must be discarded and replaced if removed from face for longer than a short sip/drink, or when the mask becomes moist or soiled
Reminder, If the mask is worn in a droplet, droplet/contact or enhanced precautions room it must be discarded



N95 Respirator Mask

- N95 and Face Shield Required:
 - All team members entering a COVID suspect/positive patient room (enhanced precautions) *Reminder, limit personnel present during an AGP to prevent risk to team members*
- Team members in higher risk locations, such as an emergency department or dedicated COVID unit may opt to wear an N95 continuously, with the required use of a face shield to protect the mask from contamination
Reminder, If the N95 mask is removed at any time it must be discarded



Personally Owned Medical Grade Masks

- Team members who purchase their own medical grade masks may use them as their continuous mask if they meet at least the minimum requirements of protection listed above, and are responsible for their proper fit, maintenance, and cleaning
- Team members are **REQUIRED** to change into a Banner approved/provided procedure mask or N95 when entering isolation rooms

As we continue to respond to this very challenging situation, we're committed to **keeping you safe and saving as many lives as possible.**