

When do I mask?

- Mask use is required in the following locations: (see attached grid)
 - In patients' hospital rooms.
 - In procedure or exam rooms and other identified closed spaces. (E.g., ambulatory exam, mammogram, ultrasound).
 - As required by YNHHS attire policies (i.e., policies for the perioperative and procedural areas, HVC control rooms, central sterile supply, sterile compounding, etc).
 - As required by patient transmission-based (isolation) policies (i.e., Airborne, Droplet, and Special Respiratory Precautions).

When is masking optional?

- Masking is optional in all settings not stated above. Some examples include but are not limited to:
 - In rehabilitation rooms, group therapies, and classroom settings.
 - While ambulating patients in hallways.
 - When providing care in the milieu of the behavioral health areas.
 - When in the Nursing Station or Charting areas.

Am I allowed to wear a mask if I am more comfortable?

- Yes

When do patients/visitors mask?

- Patients and visitors are not required to mask.
- Patients with a possible respiratory tract infection are to mask in all ambulatory areas, when possible. Visitors with a possible respiratory tract infection are asked not to visit.
- Inpatients on isolation for a respiratory infection should mask during transport.
- Visitors are to follow YNHHS PPE policies while visiting and wearing PPE while in a patient room as guided by isolation sign directions, for patients on isolation.

What can I do with my mask after I leave the patient's room?

- Once the mask is removed from your face, it should be discarded.
- Extended use is acceptable for patients not on isolation. A mask can be used for multiple patient encounters, however once removed it should be discarded.

Mask Use Change FAQ and SBAR for Staff

Masking Required for Staff	Masking Optional for staff
Patient Rooms	Open bays (i.e. emergency department, PACU, infusion etc.)
Exam Rooms	Open rehabilitation rooms
Procedure Rooms	Group therapy rooms
As required by attire policies (i.e. policies for the perioperative and procedural areas, HVC control rooms, central sterile supply, sterile compounding, etc.)	Milieu behavioral health areas
As required by transmission-based (isolation) precautions: Airborne, Droplet, and Special Respiratory Precautions.	Classrooms
As part of standard precautions when a patient is displaying respiratory symptoms but is not on isolation	Nursing Stations
	Charting Areas
	Cafeterias and Cafes
	Lobbies
	Hallways
	When transporting patients
	When ambulating patients