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Policy Area: Infection Prevention and Control
References:
Applicability: USA Health

USA Health Masking Policy

USA Health Masking Protocol

Red Status - Masks are required in all patient care areas of USA Health when community Covid-19 rates are high.

Green Status - Masks are optional in all patient care areas of USA Health when community Covid-19 rates are low.

Appropriate masking and PPE is required for patients who are on respiratory or other types of isolation precautions-See table below

Unvaccinated employees are required to wear masks in patient care areas.

Failure to comply with the masking protocol may result in progressive discipline up to and including termination.

NOTICE: Masks with exhalation vents are **NOT** appropriate PPE for the hospital setting and are **NOT** to be worn as PPE in any USA Health facility.

NOTE: This policy is based on community positivity rates of ≤10% and are subject to change as conditions warrant.

Below are the requirements for PPE when caring for patients:

Staff and Provider Setting	Activity	Type of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
Droplet or Airborne precautions (not a PUI or COVID + patient)	Follow existing Droplet or Airborne Precautions	Airborne Precautions: N-95 respirator mask
		Droplet Precautions- Vaccinated: Procedure/isolation mask Unvaccinated: N-95 mask
PUI or COVID positive	Providing <u>routine</u> care to a Person Under Investigation (PUI) or any confirmed COVID positive patient	Vaccinated/Unvaccinated: N-95 respirator mask + Contact Isolation PPE (eye protection, gown, gloves)
	Performing an <u>aerosolizing</u> procedure on a Person Under Investigation	N-95 Respirator mask or PAPR + Contact Isolation PPE (eye

	(PUI) or any confirmed COVID positive patient	protection, gown, gloves, shoe covers)
Ambulatory setting	Examination of patients with respiratory symptoms	Vaccinated: Surgical mask, Unvaccinated: N-95 respirator mask + Contact Isolation PPE, eye protection, gown, gloves, shoe covers)
	Performing aerosolized procedures and or spirometry on a non-PUI/non-COVID + patient	Vaccinated: Procedure/isolation mask Unvaccinated: N-95 respirator mask
	Performing an <u>aerosolizing</u> procedure on a Person Under Investigation (PUI) or any confirmed COVID positive patient	N-95 Respirator mask or PAPR + Contact Isolation PPE (eye protection, gown, gloves, shoe covers)
Patients/Family Member or Visitor		
Patients PUI or COVID positive		Patients are required to wear mask in all hospital areas except their room. Some pediatric exclusions may apply depending on age of patient
Family Member/ Visitor- Must screen negative for COVID symptoms		Masks are required in all areas of the hospital when community levels of Covid-19 are high. (Red Status) Masks are not required in any area of the hospital when community levels of Covid-19 are low. (Green Status) Masks and appropriate personal protective equipment are required when visiting patients on isolation precautions. CW Hospital Small Baby Unit-Visitors are encouraged to wear masks

Attachments

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Michael Chang: Chief Med Off & Asso VP MA	04/2023
Casie Crawford: HS Dir - Clin Compli&Regul Svcs	04/2023

Approver	Date
Angela Duffy: HS Asst Chief Nursing Officer	04/2023
Amy Hill: Nurse Manager	04/2023
Kortni Kennell: Nurse Manager	04/2023

Applicability

USA Health, USA Health Children's & Women's Hospital, USA Health Mitchell Cancer Institute, USA Health Physicians Group, USA Health University Hospital