

HEADLINES

MICHIGAN MEDICINE HEADLINES > UPDATES & RESOURCES

UPDATE: MASKS FOR SOURCE CONTROL

June 6, 2023 // FOUND IN: Updates & Resources, COVID-19

The landscape of COVID-19 is continuing to change. The public health emergency came to a close last month. With the continual decrease in cases, high levels of immunity (both from vaccination and previous infection), and the availability of effective treatments, U-M Health will further reduce some of the COVID-19 prevention strategies that have been in place.

The goal at U-M Health is to protect patients and workforce members from exposure, while allowing individuals the flexibility to take precautions based on their perceived level of risk.

Beginning Wednesday, June 7, masks for source control will be optional for workforce members except:

- Workforce members with COVID-19 that have been cleared to return to work from Day 6-10.
- Entering the room of a patient in Protective Precautions. This is a policy change designed to provide an extra layer of protection to patients with compromised immune systems. The signs have been updated to indicate that masks are required for entry.
- Masking remains required for other policy, clinical or environmental standards, such as for personal protective equipment for transmission based and standard precautions, as well as in clean rooms, operating rooms, procedure areas, etc.

There are varying levels of risk and perceived risk amongst our patients. Personal mask-wearing is the most important behavior that at-risk individuals can perform to protect themselves.

As we make this transition, please be aware that this will be concerning to some patients. If a patient requests that masks be worn by their health care team, please comply with this request.

Masks will continue to be available for those who wish to wear and health care workers still have the option to wear N95 respirators if they desire a higher level of respiratory protection.

Strategies to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses will continue to be evaluated and updated as needed.

<https://mmheadlines.org/2023/06/update-masks-for-source-control/>