

## Updated face mask guidance May 18, 2020

Please follow these guidelines, and always maintain six-foot physical distancing to slow the spread of the virus:

### Patient-care areas

- Healthcare workers who provide direct patient care must continue to follow our PPE recommendations.
- All staff who enter a patient-care area (ambulatory clinic and inpatient unit) must wear a surgical, ear loop mask. **Staff should not wear homemade cloth face coverings in patient-care areas.** If you have questions, reach out to your manager or supervisor.
- Patient and approved visitors are always to be masked while in our facilities. They can wear a cloth mask in patient care area as long as the mask covers their mouth and nose. If patients and visitors are not wearing a mask upon entry, they will be given a mask at screening stations. While in the patient room, patients and visitors should wear a mask when they are within six feet of others.

### Non-patient care areas

- All staff must wear a mask in non-patient care areas. These employees may wear a homemade cloth mask or surgical mask. Cloth mask [FAQs](#).
- Individuals, including employees, patients, visitors and others, who are not wearing a mask upon entry at our temperature screening stations will be asked to wear a surgical, ear loop mask. You can pick up a mask at the front desk screening stations.
- **How to order masks:** Departments who need masks may order them through Supply Chain. Place your order through email at [surgesupplychain@kumc.edu](mailto:surgesupplychain@kumc.edu), provide the quantity, cost center and address/mail stop for delivery.
- This approach is consistent with CDC recommendations advising the public to wear a cloth face covering whenever they must leave their home.

### Guidelines on general use of facemasks:

- Perform hand hygiene before and after you put it on and take it off.
- The mask should be fitted to the nose and should be extended under chin. Both your mouth and nose should be covered.
- Do not wear facemask under your chin.
- Do not touch the front of the mask.
- Carefully remove the mask touching only ear loops or ties in the back

### Guidelines on homemade cloth masks:

- Masks should be clean and look professional (preferably a solid color or simple design).
- Perform hand hygiene before and after you put it on and take it off.
- Make sure it fits comfortably over your nose and mouth
- Do not touch it after its on your face.
- Carefully remove the mask touching only ear loops or ties in the back
- Place cloth in a designated area or receptacle (such as a dirty clothes hamper)
- Wash and dry using standard detergent and settings before re-wearing.