









NATIONAL MASK GUIDELINES

Approved by the National Command Center

As we continue to care for COVID-19 patients, our priority is to protect the people and patients of Kaiser Permanente and preserve the appropriate mask availability for the duration of the pandemic.

Please see the *Infectious Disease Expert Group Practice Recommendations: COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment*.

- All patients and visitors are expected to wear appropriate level masks in any Kaiser Permanente facility.
- All staff are expected to follow the guidelines and observe PPE stewardship guidance for all types of masks.
- To conserve, the mask issued should be utilized throughout the shift unless a higher-level mask is subsequently required. Consult your local leaders for protocols on when to use a new mask.
- Providers working at non-KP facilities should follow the PPE guidelines of those facilities.

Type of KP-Issued mask	When to use
  N95 Masks or PAPR/CAPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When in the presence of patients* who are undergoing potential aerosol-generating procedures, such as intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy and nebulizer treatments• When in the presence of patients in a Designated Area for PPE Optimization (DAPO)• No makeup/lipstick should be worn when using N95 masks as it prevents reprocessing <p>* Patients with confirmed COVID-19, PUIs, or patients who have not cleared isolation after COVID diagnoses</p>
 Surgical Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the surgical core and operating room• In interventional radiology, cath lab, procedure rooms and when providing direct care in the sterile field
 Isolation/ Procedure Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When in the presence of patients (inpatient or outpatient) for all care when N95/PAPR/CAPR or surgical masks are not required
 KP-Issued "Cover Your Cough" Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When not involved in any of the tasks identified above (e.g. individuals in administrative roles and positions with limited patient exposure)• Use should be limited to one mask per day unless soiled• All patients and visitors who do not arrive with a personal mask
 Personal Masks (from home)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All patients and visitors

Notes:

- Mask Guidelines apply to all staff, providers, and physicians of Kaiser Permanente and contracted employees working in KP facilities.
- The masks in supply at your facility may not look exactly like those pictured here. If you have questions about mask guidance, please discuss with your manager/supervisor.