

 		CLACKAMAS & WASHINGTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES		
EMS Clinical Notification				
EFFECTIVE DATE: April 3, 2023	NUMBER: 040322-ADM	TYPE: Clinical Guideline	REPLACES: 011022-ADM	PAGE: 1 OF 2
ENTER NAME/TITLE HERE (signature on line below): DR. RITU SAHNI, MD, MPH, FAEMS		TITLE: UPDATED PPE/MASKING GUIDELINES		

Hello!

As most of you know, the Oregon Health Authority mask mandate expires on April 3, 2022. Our hospital partners have been preparing for this and it does appear that they will continue to require or strongly recommend masking in all clinical areas, including the emergency department.

Given these facts, the beginning April 3, 2023 PPE guidelines are:

On all EMS calls the MINIMUM required PPE is:

- Simple surgical mask
- Proper eye protection
- Gloves
- A provider may still choose to wear a higher level mask/respirator at any time

An N95 mask would be expected and need to be replaced in the following clinical scenarios:

- The patient is known to have COVID-19
- The patient has symptoms that are concerning for COVID-19, including:
 - o Fever
 - o Shortness of breath, respiratory distress, cough or other resp complaint.
 - o Loss of sense of taste or smell
- An aerosol generating procedure is performed, including:
 - o Intubation or cricothyrotomy
 - o Non-invasive ventilation (BVM, BiPAP, CPAP)
 - o Medication administration via continuous nebulizer
 - o Cardiac arrest management

The reality is that there will be another change in mid-May as the Federal emergency declaration expires and we have experience with more lax masking requirements in health care settings. Therefore, it would be reasonable to expect more changes in the next 1-2 months.



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