



Face mask is defined as a procedure or surgical mask

- Patients should be advised to not touch the outside of the mask. If they touch or adjust their face mask, they must immediately perform hand hygiene
- Patients should be provided with a new mask if it becomes wet, soiled or damaged

Site	Location	Activity	Masking Requirement	Specific Instructions
Emergency Department Setting	Waiting Room, Registration, Triage, Consultation Room	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask, if tolerated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene upon entry and exit to facility • Ensure spatial distance of at least 2 metres from other patients • For symptomatic patients, immediately move to a single room or separate waiting area away from others
Outpatient Services (e.g., Ambulatory Care, Laboratory, Diagnostic Imaging, Day Surgery, Physiotherapy, Dialysis)	Reception, Triage, Waiting Room, Consultation Room	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask, if tolerated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene upon entry and exit to facility • Ensure spatial distance of at least 2 metres from other patients • For symptomatic patients, immediately move to a single room or separate waiting area away from others
Acute Care	Patient Room	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No face mask required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene frequently
	Outside patient room (e.g., wards, corridors)	When being transported for medically necessary tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WITHOUT respiratory symptoms - No face mask required • WITH respiratory symptoms - Face mask, if tolerated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before leaving room for transport, patient to perform hand hygiene and put on clean gown/housecoat
Long Term Care setting	Entire facility	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No face mask required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene frequently
Home Care setting	In client's home	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No face mask required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene frequently

References:

- Public Health Ontario: Technical Brief: IPAC Recommendations for the Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19 (May 3, 2020)
- Vancouver Coastal Health: PPE Recommendations for Patients
- Shared Health Manitoba: Provincial Requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Patients