

Masking in CapitalCare Centres

In Continuing Care settings, the requirement for masks is set out in a CMOH Order (Order 29-2020.) The Appendix to the Order set out the requirements for operators, staff, residents, family, friends *and support persons* of the residents who live in the facilities to which the Order applies. Masking ensures that the COVID-19 droplets do not spread to others near you. For our most vulnerable persons, seniors in care, this is critical to decreasing the exposure. Wearing a mask protects:

- residents and seniors in care
- staff who are caring for the residents
- yourself

Each Visitor/designated support person(s) is **required to wear a mask continuously** inside a CapitalCare building, or in any location (indoor/or outdoor) where 2-meter distancing cannot be maintained. Visitors will be provided a medical mask upon entry to the building and completion of the screening.

Special circumstances for adapted masking may be discussed with the Centre RN/Manager should the visitor have cognitive or sensory Impairment or traumatic experience.

If wearing the mask is interfering with your visit then please discuss this with the RN/Manager so that a safe solution can be found. This would be a very rare occasion and only if physical distancing can be maintained. For example when a resident needs to lip read.

Wearing a mask properly is important in keeping our resident safe:

- Perform hand hygiene before putting on your mask and after taking your mask off.
- A clean medical mask must be worn at all times in the building.
- Wear the mask securely over your mouth and nose and adjust the nose piece to fit snugly.
- Do not touch the front of the mask while wearing it.
- Do not dangle the mask under your chin, around your neck, off your ear, under the nose or place on top of your head.
- Perform hand hygiene when mask is removed.

Important:

There is a considerable public safety risk to individuals failing to follow these guidelines. If a designated family support person does not wear masks as outlined above or otherwise does not follow the Safe Visiting Practices, the site will ask the visitor/DSP to either comply or leave. If RCMP or city Police Services may be called in such circumstances that a person refuses to comply or leave the premises.