

CDC COVID-19 Infection Prevention Do's and Don'ts



Wearing gloves in common areas

Not only does this practice misuse much needed supplies, it can discourage appropriate hand hygiene and may increase the spread of viruses.



Using physical barriers such as a window divider at check in desk

Controls like this are recommended by the CDC along with leveraging phone and video technologies as an alternative to face to face contact whenever possible.



Wearing a medical face mask (procedural or surgical mask) at all times while in the practice

The CDC advised this may be considered in areas with substantial impact. Supplies must be available to provide source control (i.e. place on patients that are suspected of having COVID-19) and protection for healthcare providers with direct contact.



Using unapproved/untested masks such as fabric or home-made masks

Washable or homemade face masks may create hazards to yourself and others. It is not a recommended practice.



Wearing a medical face mask during care of patient with known or suspected COVID-19 (when N95 mask is unavailable)

Per the CDC, medical face masks do offer some protection and may be used to perform essential duties when an N95 or other respirator is not available. Please practice with caution. Even when a facemask is used during direct contact, it is still considered an exposure.



Disposing of unexpired cleaning supplies

Please be careful to note the expiration dates as some supplies are ineffective after expiration and continue routine practices related to disposal.



Protecting medical supplies assigning centralized inventory and ordering

This is a recommended practice by the CDC.



Hoarding, taking or other misuse of medical supplies

For the safety of healthcare providers and patients, it is extremely important these supplies are available for essential health care tasks.