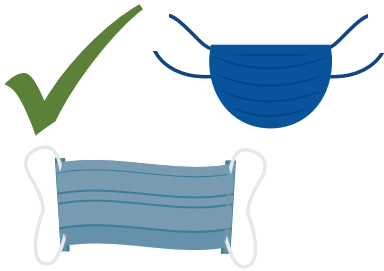


# Patient and Visitor Face Covering Reference Sheet

This document outlines guidance for patient and visitor masking. *This is for internal use only by Duke Health team members.*

## Acceptable Face Coverings



Patients and visitors may wear their own masks as long as they **adequately cover the mouth and nose** and have **ties or earloops**. If they don't have an approved face covering, please provide them with an earloop mask.

Face coverings may not be bandanas, neck gaiters or have exhalation valves. Patients or visitors may not wear these types of face coverings because they are not effective at preventing transmission to other people.

Patients or visitors with one of these types of masks should be given a Duke-issued mask to wear either in place of or over top of their personal mask.



## Key Policy Takeaways

For patients:

- All patients who can tolerate masks are required to wear one in common spaces of our hospitals and clinics (e.g., waiting rooms, hallways, cafeterias).
- Outpatients who are able to tolerate a mask are required to wear them for the duration of their visit to the healthcare facility.
- Inpatients may be provided a mask to wear when a healthcare team member enters their room; however, inpatients are not required to wear masks while in their hospital room.

NOTE: Universal masking policies do not apply to patients in inpatient behavioral health units and children under 2.

For visitors:

- Visitors are required to wear a mask at all times in common spaces.
- Visitors are required to wear a mask when any Duke team member enters the patient or exam room.
- Visitors are required to wear a mask at all times when visiting a hospitalized patient residing in a shared patient room.
- Visitors should be encouraged to wear a mask at all times while visiting hospitalized patients to prevent transmission of COVID-19 to the person they are visiting.

Last updated: 8/17/20