



Nancy Susick, RN, Interim President

Beaumont

President Update

April 22, 2022

Team,

We are in a new phase of the pandemic that will likely see COVID-19 cases rise and fall across our communities going forward. Given that masking has been a hot topic in the news and the fact we are seeing an increase in COVID-19 in some areas of Michigan, I wanted to remind you of our approach to masking at Beaumont Health.

Clinical Areas: Masks continue to be required in clinical areas, regardless of vaccination status.

· *Clinical areas include common areas such as hallways, nursing stations, cafeterias, elevators and waiting rooms within clinical buildings.*

Non-clinical Areas: Right now, masking is optional in non-clinical, non-public areas. Masks are required in every shared space for individuals who have not received their initial dose series of a COVID-19 vaccine. (Currently, this means for those not having had the first two doses of an mRNA vaccine or one dose of the J&J vaccine.)

· *Non-clinical areas include administrative or business areas that are not considered accessible to the general public, private offices, meeting rooms and conference spaces that are outside of clinical areas and not accessible to the public/visitors and laboratory workspaces.*

Going forward, we will be monitoring community transmission and region-wide health care utilization metrics using the CDC Community Level Map as a more accurate indicator for community level risk.

Masking recommendations will be based primarily on community levels (see CDC website on community levels)

- Low – Masking optional
- Moderate – Masking strongly encouraged, but not required
- High – Masking required

Our use of the CDC map is not absolute, but it will influence our recommendations in combination with the rate of local increased caseload/hospitalizations and the local level of team member positivity.

Recommendations on masking in non-clinical settings will be geographic (i.e. if Oakland County becomes red, but the west side of Michigan remains lower, only Beaumont Health will go to mandatory non-clinical masking). Further, if a county within a clinical BSHS System division goes red, in almost all circumstances, the entire clinical division will go to mandatory non-clinical masking, as opposed to only facilities in that county.

We must trust each another to do the right thing with integrity when it comes to masking. Also, please respect your colleagues who choose to wear a mask in any setting.

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 transmission and adjust guidance as needed. Please continue to use the [Clear for Work](#) site and get tested if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

If you have specific questions, please speak with your leader.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy". The script is fluid and cursive.

Nancy Susick, RN
Interim President
Beaumont Health