

A message from

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President & CEO



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Beginning tomorrow at 6 a.m., we are moving to optional masking for our team members, patients and visitors across most Corewell Health sites. We have closely studied the data and we are confident this is a step we can take while still protecting your health and the health of our patients.

Since 2020, COVID-19 has had a profound effect on our lives and our work. Through it all, we focused on what mattered. We made tough choices. We persevered through some of the most challenging circumstances we have ever faced in our careers and our lives. We wondered if we'd ever see smiles again inside our hospitals.

Now, three years later, our understanding of how to test, track, measure and provide care related to COVID-19 has significantly evolved and improved. While COVID-19 will likely remain for the foreseeable future, the disease is more manageable today. In fact, our admission levels have been low, or "in the green," consistently for nearly a year now.

There are just a few exceptions. Masking will still be universally required for patients, visitors and team members at long-term care and skilled nursing facilities and transplant clinics.

We will continue to follow infection prevention guidelines where masking is an appropriate protective precaution for patient care. While masks will become optional in most settings, we must continue to support those who are especially vulnerable to respiratory illnesses.

Masking stations will remain in place. There will be times when wearing a mask might be the right, and most courteous thing to do. Patients may request that their care team wear a mask. We will also continue to monitor the virus and will adjust our masking guidelines, if necessary.

Many other health systems across our state are also announcing their own plans to make masking optional over the next week. We are proud Corewell Health helped to lead this next step in our state's response to the pandemic.

Making masking optional will improve our connection with each other and the patients and families we serve. We are looking forward to seeing your smiles again. We want to see our patients' smiles, too. The human connection of health care is powerful and healing.

Thank you for all you have done throughout the pandemic. Making masking optional is a major milestone as we move toward a brighter and better future.