

New FAQs – October 21, 2020

1. *Can you please clarify if we are allowed to wear our own cloth masks at Corporate? We were told we had to wear the ones provided by AltaMed. But according to the temporary face mask policy, we are allowed to wear our own cloth mask.*

From the COVID-19 Response Team:

The policy is meant to be interpreted as saying that we have to wear a face covering at all times; while supplies are adequate, we require our staff to wear personal protective equipment for their own protection and for surrounding staff members' optimal protection. Surgical face masks offer three times the amount of protection of typical cloth masks.

We are currently evaluating our mask policy to include additional language citing the preference for surgical masks in all settings. Please refer to any updates in the policy.

Source: Davies A, Thompson KA, Giri K, Kafatos G, Walker J, Bennett A. Testing the efficacy of homemade masks: would they protect in an influenza pandemic? *Disaster Med Public Health Prep.* 2013 Aug;7(4):413-8. doi: 10.1017/dmp.2013.43. PMID: 24229526; PMCID: PMC7108646.