



## NORTHERN MICHIGAN

### PATIENT & VISITOR MASK POLICY

Patients and visitors entering a McLaren Northern Michigan facility (hospital or clinic) may continue to wear the mask they wore from home and do not need to be given a hospital-issued mask as long as it meets the mask definitions below.

Please see patient and visitor mask policy:

- Masks with a valve are not allowed and those patients should be given a hospital-issued mask. They may wear the hospital-issued mask over their personal mask.
- Hospital-issued isolation masks are required only for patients when entering sterile areas of the hospital (surgery, Cath Lab, etc.). Employees in those departments are required to provide masks to patients before entering the sterile environment.
- All patients and visitors are required to wear a mask, except as otherwise specified, this may be either a hospital-approved isolation mask or a cloth mask. This initiative is for added protection to both employees and patients.
- Patients must wear the mask at all times unless they are eating, drinking, or acutely short of breath.
- Those patients who state they cannot wear a mask for medical reasons should be prepared to show an exemption note from their medical provider.
- Pediatric patients age 2 and up are encouraged to wear a mask; pediatric patients age 5 and up are required to wear a mask, when entering our facilities.
- Visitors who state they are unable to wear a mask will not be allowed to enter.

### MASK DEFINITIONS

**Hospital supplied isolation mask:** surgical or procedure masks supplied by the hospital for use inside the hospital or on hospital grounds.

**Cloth masks:** masks supplied by the individual wearing them. They must be at least two-ply, made of tightly woven material, and not have vents. Staff can wear cloths masks in non-clinical areas. Visitors may use approved cloth masks.

**Unapproved masks:** Use of clothing, bandanas or other mask substitutes that do not meet the definition above are not permitted within the hospital.