

April 25, 2022

S: No change to the use of respiratory protection across YNHHS/YM

B: The use of appropriate respiratory personal protective equipment (PPE) has and continues to be a principal action to protect oneself and others from the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID. Recently, Connecticut state government and the federal government have made limitations to previous requirements for mask use.

Appropriate respiratory PPE includes face masks, surgical masks and respirators as defined in “YNHHS/YM PPE Policy for COVID-19 Prevention”.

A: The level of community transmission of COVID remains substantial to high across the YNHHS and YM service areas. Continued widespread use of face masks is necessary to sustain a safe environment for patients, family/visitors and staff.

R: Consistent with the YNHHS/YM PPE Policy;

1. All patients and visitors are required to wear a face mask, or other appropriate respiratory protection, when in any healthcare facility, including all ambulatory settings.
2. All staff are required to wear face masks, or other appropriate respiratory protection, when in any YNHHS/YM facility. Respiratory PPE use is not required when outdoors or alone in a private office.

Reference: YNHHS/YM PPE Policy for COVID-19 Prevention, effective date September 10, 2021