COVID-19

Coronavirus **COVID-19** Public Health Advice

Safe use of **Masks**

THE MASK YOU NEED

DO: REMEMBER TO WEAR THE CORRECT MASK FOR THE TASK:

Wear **Surgical or FFP2 mask:** for droplet precautions, *or* when providing care within 2 metres of any patient, *or* when working within 2 metres of another healthcare worker for more than 15 minutes.

Always wear a **fit tested** FFP2/FFP3 respirator mask for AGPs. **Fit check** your respirator mask every single time.

WEARING THE MASK

DO: Wear your mask so it comes all the way up, close to the bridge of your nose, and all the way down under your chin.

DO: Press the metal band so that it conforms to the bridge of your nose.

DO: Tighten the loops or ties so it's snug around your face, without gaps. If there are strings, tie them high on top of the head to get a good fit.

DO NOT: Wear the mask below your nose.

DO NOT: Leave your chin exposed.

DO NOT: Wear your mask loosely with gaps on the sides.

DO NOT: Wear your mask so it covers just the tip of your nose.

DO NOT: Push your mask under your chin to rest on your neck.

ONCE YOU HAVE ADJUSTED YOUR MASK TO THE CORRECT POSITION, FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO STAY SAFE:

- ALWAYS change your mask when you answer the telephone or you take a drink/break.
- ALWAYS wash your hands before and after handling a mask.
- ALWAYS change mask when leaving a cohort area or exiting a single patient isolation room
- ALWAYS change mask if it is dirty, wet or damaged
- NEVER fidget with your mask when it's on.
- NEVER store your mask in your pocket.

REMOVING THE MASK

Use the ties or ear loops to take the mask off.

Do not touch the front of the mask when you take it off.

DISPOSING OF THE MASK

Dispose of mask properly in a bin as ordinary household waste unless you were caring for a person with COVID-19. If you are disposing a mask after contact with a person who has a COVID-19 infection or suspected COVID-19, please follow these disposal instructions. Place the mask in a **healthcare risk waste bin.**

IF HEALTHCARE RISK WASTE SERVICE IS NOT AVAILABLE:
The mask, along with any other PPE used when treating a person with COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19, needs to be double-bagged and stored for 72hrs in a secure location, then put in the domestic waste.

72hr