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# Personal Protective Equipment: Masks

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This presentation is for informational purposes only and does not constitute clinical or legal advice. Follow up with a BCBA/BCBA-D. It is recommended to develop a specific plan for your child or student.




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## Objectives

### Main Objectives

- Increase staff knowledge on the care, use and limitations of wearing masks.
- Understand the difference between medical and non-medical masks.
- How to safely put on and remove your mask.

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## Medical & Non-Medical Masks

Non-medical masks (NMMs) are often worn by the general population.

Medical masks are worn as PPE by healthcare and non-healthcare human service staff in certain situations

- i.e. when social distancing is not possible

It can be challenging to understand the difference as many NMMs may look the same as non medical masks.

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## According to Public Health:

NMMs are masks **not** certified by Health Canada as medical grade.

NMMs are worn for the purpose of source control.

NMMs should **not** be worn during instances where the use of PPE is indicated.

NMMs (3-ply or 2-ply) are **not** Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

When worn correctly NMMs will protect those around the wearer from exposure.

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## Medical Masks

### According to Public Health:

Medical masks are a type of PPE and certified by Health Canada as medical grade.

Medical masks are worn with other types of PPE (when indicated).

They can be called surgical or procedural and come in different levels (ASTM) of protection.

When worn properly, medical masks:

- Protect the wearer from exposure to potentially infectious respiratory droplets of others.
- Function as source control protecting those around the wearer.

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## Medical Masks

Medical masks come in different ASTM levels.

ASTM levels indicate the level of fluid resistance and filtration.

To ensure the mask is of medical grade there must be an ASTM rating on the box.

See the chart on the next slide for details.

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## Levels of Medical Masks

ASTM Level	Performance Metrics	Use Case
ASTM Level 3	High Fluid Resistance Filtration Efficiency: 98% Breathability: Delta P < 2.0 mmHg/cm² Flame Spread: Class 1	Ideal for procedures where heavy to moderate amounts of fluid, spray and/or aerosols are produced. Meets EN14683 Rating - Type III Standard. Examples: Critical Care, Operating Room, Intensive Care, Emergency, Endotracheal Intubation, Spinal Anesthesia, Cesarean Section, Cardiac Surgery, Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement.
ASTM Level 2	Medium Fluid Resistance Filtration Efficiency: 95% Breathability: Delta P < 2.0 mmHg/cm² Flame Spread: Class 1	Ideal for procedures where moderate to light amounts of fluid, spray and/or aerosols are produced. Meets EN14683 Rating - Type II Standard. Examples: Cardiac Catheterization, Endotracheal Intubation, Spinal Anesthesia, Cesarean Section, Cardiac Surgery, Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement.
ASTM Level 1	Low Fluid Resistance Filtration Efficiency: 95% Breathability: Delta P < 2.0 mmHg/cm² Flame Spread: Class 1	Ideal for procedures where low amounts of fluid, spray and/or aerosols are produced. Meets EN14683 Rating - Type I Standard. Examples: Endotracheal Intubation, Spinal Anesthesia, Cesarean Section, Cardiac Surgery, Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement.

Retrieved from: mask.meds 2021-10-01/04/2021 10:00:00 AM

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NMMs are Often worn by the general population. They are Not a form of PPE.

NMMs only provide source control.

½ as effective in blocking transmission of respiratory pathogens as medical masks.

## Medical vs Non-Medical Masks

Medical masks are worn by direct human service staff as an effective form of PPE.

Protects the wearer from exposure to respiratory droplets, and provides source control.

2-3 times more effective in blocking respiratory droplets and pathogens than NMMs.

Difference Between Non-Medical Masks and Medical | Difference Between

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## Active Student Responding

**1. What is true about non medical masks?**

- You can wear non medical masks as a form of PPE
- Non medical masks protect the wearer from exposure to potentially infectious respiratory droplets of others
- Non medical masks protect those around the wearer as a form of source control
- All of the above

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## Active Student Responding

**2. True or False: Medical Masks provide source control and protect the wearer from exposure of others respiratory droplets?**

a) True  
b) False

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Situation	Office Workers	Supervising a client & able to socially distance	Working with or supervising a client and not able to socially distance	Coming in contact with Bodily Fluids (e.g. spit)	Wellness Room
<b>PPE Needed</b>	Non-medical mask (3 ply, OR 2 masks layered if not 3 ply)  Mask must be worn at all times in building	Non-Medical mask (3 ply, OR 2 masks layered if not 3 ply)  AND  Goggles OR face shield	Medical mask (level 1)  AND  Goggles OR face shield	Medical mask (level 1)  AND face shield  AND change of clothes OR apron (washable)  AND gloves	Note: these items are in the wellness room and should be worn if in the wellness room with a client <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• Mask (lvl1)</li> <li>• Face shield or Goggles</li> <li>• Gown</li> </ul>

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## Masks During Session

Staff are required to wear a level 1 medical mask & face shield at all times during sessions.

Level 1 medical masks provide effective barrier protection from aerosols, sprays and fluids.

The masks worn during session must be the masks provided by AlphaBee.

Staff are not permitted to wear masks they have purchased themselves.

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Inspect your masks for tears, holes or other defects before each use.	Do not leave your mask tucked under your chin, hanging from your ear, or on your forehead.	Do not touch the outside of your mask or your face while wearing your mask.
<b>Mask Use Tips</b>		
For disposable masks, discard and do not use again after wearing for a day.	When removing your mask for breaks, place it on a sanitary paper towel and follow break protocols.	Remove the mask by the ear loops without touching the front of the mask.

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## Active Student Responding

**3. Which is False?**

- a) Medical masks come in different levels of protection
- b) Staff are required to wear medical masks, level 1 masks at all times while with clients
- c) Staff are permitted to wear non medical masks during sessions with their clients
- d) Medical masks provide source control and protect from others respiratory droplets

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## Donning & Doffing a Mask & Face shield



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## Guidelines for Children Wearing Masks

See the Below Guidelines for Mask Wearing for Children According to Public Health:

- Children 3-8 years old (kindergarten-Grade 3) are strongly recommended to wear face masks.
- It is mandatory for Children 9 years and older to wear a mask.
- Children under 2 years old are not required to wear a mask.
- Children that have a medical condition, or are unable to remove their mask independently are not required to wear a mask – though a face shield is recommended if possible.

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## Mask Wearing for Clients

- Most clients should be systematically working towards wearing masks for longer periods of time during session.
- A client may be approved to wear a face shield only, you should speak to your ST – some protection is better than none.
- When clients are taking a "mask break" ensure you are at least than 6ft away from them.
- When the client removes their mask they should have a bag or safe spot to put it in while it is off their face.

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## Active Student Responding

### 4. Which one is true:

- When removing my PPE, I perform hand hygiene before I begin and after I am finished
- When removing my mask I should place it on a clean paper towel or paper bag
- When putting my mask on I touch only the ear loops or ties
- When removing my PPE to eat or drink, I cannot leave it around my neck or chin
- All of the above

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## Active Student Responding

5. I need to change my mask and clean my face shield between each use/ client or if it becomes damp or dirty?

- a) True
- b) False

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## Active Student Responding

6. Are clients required to wear a face mask?

- a) Not if they are under 2 years old or have a medical exemption.
- b) Yes, If they are 3 years or older an attempt should be made to work on mask wearing.
- c) In some cases a face shield may be allowed.
- d) All of the above

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## Medical Accommodation

If you have a medical condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, please contact Laura Dignard, at [Laura@alphabee.com](mailto:Laura@alphabee.com).

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## Thank You!

The use of PPE and our other measures are key to fighting and staying safe during COVID-19.

We appreciate everybody's effort, working together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and maintain a safe working and learning environment for staff and clients!

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## References

- [Difference Between Non-Medical Masks and Medical | Difference Between](#)
- [WHSC\\_Pandemic\\_Gloves-at-Work\\_Safeguards-for-workers.aspx](#)
- [Ordering COVID-19 Personal Hygiene Supplies | Physical Resources \(uoguelph.ca\)](#)
- [Using masks in the workplace | Ontario.ca](#)
- [COVID-19MaskProcedure-PR730-completeset.pdf \(tdsb.on.ca\)](#)
- [Public Services Health and Safety Association | COVID-19: Precautions When Working As A Social & Community Services Worker \(psbsa.ca\)](#)
- [Windsor-Essex CSDP - Planning - Safe Return to School Toolkit - 6-2-17-2-2020.pdf \(cayiamonde.ca\)](#)
- [Preventing COVID-19 in the workplace: Employers, employees and essential service workers - Canada.ca](#)

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