

Guidance on Using Clear Masks

When to Use:

Clear masks should only be worn with patients that are hearing impaired or rely on reading lips to communicate.



Wearing with COVID-19 positive, Contact Precautions or PUI patients:

- If the patient is on contact precautions, the clear mask must be discarded after each patient encounter
- If a COVID-19 positive patient or PUI patient is undergoing an AGP, a N95 Mask should be worn
- Do not touch your mask during direct patient care, remove your mask holding the straps and discard

Cleaning Guidelines for Reuse:

- For hearing impaired patients who are COVID-19 negative and not on isolation precautions, the Clear Mask may be worn across multiple encounters.
- Do not touch your mask during direct patient care.
- Masks can be wiped down after each patient encounter with an approved cleaning product for COVID-19 which can be found at vumc.org/coronavirus
- Once dry, store your mask by folding it in half (clean interior sides together), place in a paper bag, labeled with your name.
- The mask may be re-worn until damaged or soiled.
- If your mask becomes wet, torn, or soiled, remove your mask holding the straps and discard