



June 18, 2021

## **RE: PACIFIC REGION UPDATE ON MASKING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING EXPECTATIONS AT THE WORKPLACE**

The California Department of Public Health issued new guidelines on June 15. For GMR this means that our clinical personnel can now ease some of the masking and distancing **requirements per the GMR memo of May 19 now largely apply to all areas of operation, see attached pdf & link below**, but with the following, California specific clarifications:

1. EVEN FULLY VACCINATED GMR PERSONNEL (2 weeks after last vaccination) MUST WEAR MASKS WHEN ENTERING IN TO:
  - Any public transit including all transit hubs: Airports, bus terminals, subway stations, marinas, or any other area that provides transportation.
  - Any school or childcare setting, public or private, including campuses and dormitories.
  - Any healthcare setting including all hospitals, clinics, medical practices and doctor's offices whether or not you are providing patient care.
  - All long-term care facilities including any skilled nursing facilities, convalescent homes, and board and care facilities.
  - All correctional facilities and detention centers.
  - Homeless shelters, emergency shelters, cooling centers, or any other congregate living situation.
  - Any residence or place of business that chooses to require masking, regardless of vaccination status.
  
2. For UNVACCINATED personnel, including incompletely vaccinated personnel, or those who decline to state their vaccination status, ALL of the above apply, AND masks are required in ALL indoor public settings and businesses. This includes any GMR workplace whether or not you are providing patient care. Not fully vaccinated personnel may remove their mask when alone in a room or vehicle, and while eating and drinking, provided they are six feet apart from other persons.
  - An exception for GMR personnel, vaccinated or not, that will apply are "Persons...communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication." Both vaccinated and unvaccinated personnel may remove their mask in this setting only for the duration of

the verbal communication with the hearing-impaired patient.

Please understand that the masking and distancing requirements are changing frequently, and that any surge in COVID-19 cases may lead to the return of more stringent restrictions. County and municipal regulations will also apply. Please also understand that some California government agencies have not yet decided on their specific guidelines, which may again change GMR masking requirements. Please review the documents in the links below.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

<https://staging-myportal.amr.net/CMSPages/Newsletters/GetEmailBrowserContent.ashx?issueGuid=a14324bd-759c-4476-9844-38858868ddb6&recipientEmail=Sean.Russell%40gmr.net&hash=ae5e6eb99762a1ba4fe22a263d0beec8ffc0ee24507592fbbb3cdeb54b5bbbc2>

Thank you for your patience and understanding. It's been a very long pandemic, and we are all seeking a return to normal. But we are still bound by California masking and distancing regulations.

As always, if you have any questions or other needs, please let me know.

Regards



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