

COVID-19

Wearing a mask in hospital

In line with Department of Health advice, Victorians must now wear a face covering when they leave home, as an additional measure to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

This includes during your time at Cabrini.

All patients need to wear a mask while at Cabrini, unless you are alone in your room. Please remember to put your mask on any time another person, including Cabrini staff, enters your room.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of your care team.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Questions about wearing a mask in hospital

Who will provide me with a mask?

- Your care team will provide you with one and show you how to wear it.

How do I wear my mask to ensure it is working?

- Your mask should fit snugly and cover your nose and mouth.
- Do not hang your mask around your neck or from one ear. Avoid touching the front of your mask when you are wearing it.

Follow Cabrini's **mask guide** and **tips for wearing a mask** document for more detailed advice.

When do I change my mask?

- Your mask can last up to four hours. If your mask is damp or soiled, or becomes damaged, it should be changed immediately.

Where should I dispose of my mask while in the hospital?

- Masks should be disposed of in clinical waste bins.

What do I do when I need to eat or drink?

- Masks should be removed while eating and drinking. Remember to wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand rub before and after removing your mask.

Does my face covering worn for religious beliefs/cultural practice qualify?

- Face coverings worn as part of religious beliefs or cultural practice may not offer the same level of protection as a well-fitting mask. Your care team will provide a mask for additional protection.

There may be some situations where wearing a mask may cause clinical deterioration or distress or precipitate behaviours of concern. The decision to grant an exemption will be made by the treating clinician. Please speak to your care team if you have any questions about this.

For more information about Cabrini's response to COVID-19, please visit cabrini.com.au/coronavirus

For further guidance, please visit the Department of Health's COVID-19 website: www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks

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