

# UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

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Dear Members,

Based upon recommendations by the CDC, the DPH has issued an update to its Comprehensive Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance. This Guidance requires that face masks be worn by all health care personnel (HCP) serving in healthcare settings where there is the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials. This Guidance was updated to incorporate strategies for PPE use in settings where there are high numbers of individuals being quarantined or isolated due to COVID-19 and to reflect the increasing community prevalence of SARS-CoV-2. It reinstates the need to wear eye protection (in addition to masks, which continue to be required) during patient encounters as community-level transmission is high across the Commonwealth.

This Guidance may apply to HCPs in certain ALRs and should be carefully reviewed to see if the individual circumstance of an ALR places its HCP in a setting where there is risk of exposure, implicating the measures in this guidance. The full guidance, which contains additional details about the use of PPE, may be viewed [here](#).

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***If you have any questions, please contact us at [Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org](mailto:Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org)***

*\*The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*

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