

What's New ACLS COVID-19 Update 6

27th July 2020

We firstly want to say a huge thanks to all aged care workers. Your efforts to care for and protect older people and each other is greatly appreciated.

This update is just a reminder about some of the key protection measures when using face masks. Check with your manager if you are not sure what to do or about your workplace policy for the use of face masks.

**Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Australia as of 9pm
27th July 2020.**



Wearing a face mask

There is strong evidence globally that face masks can reduce the spread of COVID-19.

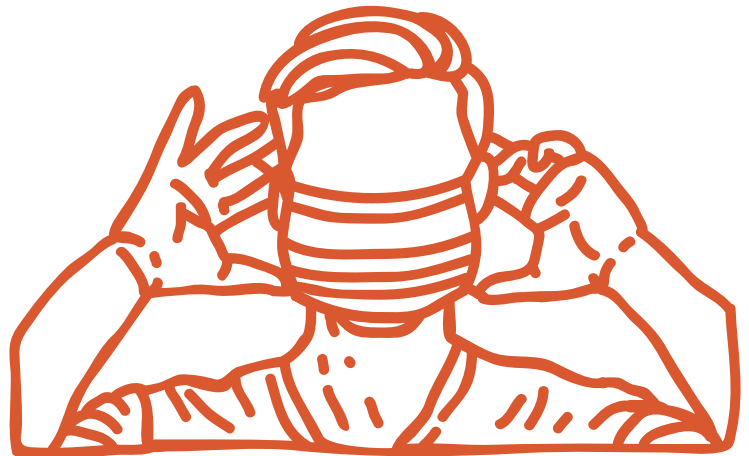
With growing community based transmission, face masks are now a requirement in a number of public, aged care and health care settings.



Do's and Don'ts of Using Disposable Single Use Face Masks

Do's

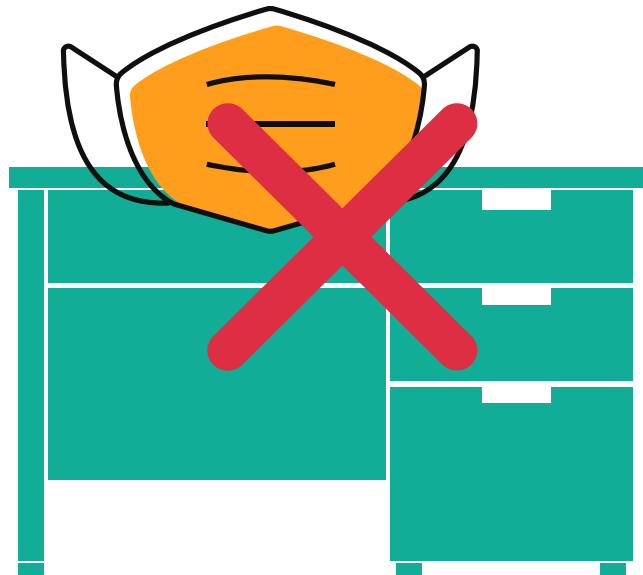
- Wash or sanitise your hands before you put on a face mask and check for any damage or holes.
- The firm edge goes to the top and the mask needs to fit snugly across the top of your nose, mouth and the sides of your face.
- Get the mask comfortable and well fitted across your face and the straps over your ears or ties secure so you don't have to readjust it.



- Wash or santise your hands again before taking off the mask.
- Remove the mask by holding the straps behind both ears and take off the mask. If the mask has ties, undo the bottom tie first then undo the top tie and hold the ties to remove the mask.
- Only touch the straps/ties and dispose of the mask in a closed bin immediately.
- Check if the mask needs to go into contaminated or general waste where you work.
- Wash or sanitise your hands as soon as you have removed and disposed of the mask.

Don'ts

- Don't touch the mask once it is on. The mask is now contaminated. *If you do touch the mask you must wash or sanitise your hands immediately.*
- Don't ever hang the mask around your neck or under your nose. This puts you and others at risk of contamination.
- Don't leave a contaminated mask on a surface and then use it again.
- Don't reuse single use disposable masks... ever!
- Don't leave on a mask that is wet or soiled.



More Information - click on the links below

[Department of Health - COVID-19](#)

[World Health Organisation - COVID-19](#)

[Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission - COVID-19 information](#)