



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration    Animal Services    Behavioral Health    Clinic Services  
Emergency Medical Services    Environmental Health    Public Administrator/Public Guardian    Public Health

Date: January 13, 2022  
To: Monterey County EMS Service Providers  
From: Monterey County EMS Agency  
**Subject: N95 Mask Usage Mandatory in Hospitals**

Effective immediately all EMS personnel entering a hospital are required to wear a properly fitted and applied N95 mask for the duration of their time inside the facility. This requirement applies to all EMS personnel regardless of their vaccine status or COVID positivity.

The EMS Agency is instituting this change in response to the significantly increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, the greater occurrence of asymptomatic persons who are testing positive for COVID-19, and the most recent information on appropriate masking. Additionally, this requirement is aligned with hospital requirements for personnel who access clinical areas.

We understand that the immediate implementation of this requirement may create a supply challenge for some agencies. Representatives for agencies in need of N95 masks may place a request for resources through the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) online resource request system at: <https://apps.co.monterey.ca.us/EMSRequest/>.

If you have questions regarding this requirement, please contact Debra Hopgood, MHOAC, at [MHOAC@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:MHOAC@co.monterey.ca.us).