

Lincoln Internal Medicine Masking Policy Update: Effective March 28th, 2023

Following careful review of community spread of COVID-19, showing continued gradual reduction in key metrics, in combination with improved immunity from COVID19 vaccinations and natural infection, Lincoln Internal Medicine will be shifting masking policy, on March 28th, 2023, to allow all patients and staff members to allow for optional masking for all those in good health, and those who have not been exposed to COVID19 in prior 10 days.

For any patients with symptoms of upper respiratory symptoms, including cough, runny nose, or sneezing; or with exposure to someone with COVID19 in the last 10 days, a well-fitting mask that covers the mouth and nose will be recommended. Patients with new-onset upper respiratory symptoms will continue to be suggested to have telemedicine visits/parking lot visits.

Any patient or staff member may continue to favor wearing a mask at anytime owing to personal preference related to their own health condition risks and/or comfort levels, and this choice will be respected by other patients and staff alike.

It should be noted, that required masking may be re-instated at anytime in the future, if community metrics dictate.

Lincoln Internal Medicine is enacting this masking policy change on the same date as other local regional hospital organizations, including Atrium Health, Novant, Caromont, and Cone Health in an effort to limit confusion with a patchwork of different policies on varying timelines.