

# CDC COVID-19 PPE and Screening FAQ

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) posted updated information regarding mask guidance for fully vaccinated people. This information may help you with some questions you, your staff or your patients have.

## Do patients still need to wear a mask when visiting a dental office?

Source: [\*"When You've Been Fully Vaccinated"\*](#)

People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can stop wearing masks in most places. However, people will still need a mask in the following places:

- Healthcare settings (like a dental or medical office, a hospital or a nursing home)
- Using public transportation
- Transportation centers (like airports or train stations)
- Local businesses and workplaces that require masks
- Additional places where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations

## Should we continue to screen patients and DHCP?

The updated [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#) guidance states (listed in #3 below) "Establish a process to ensure everyone (patients, healthcare personnel, and visitors) entering the facility is assessed for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), or exposure to others with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and that they are practicing source control." Temperature scans and screening questions are methods of assessment.

### **"Screen and Triage Everyone Entering a Healthcare Facility for Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19"**

Although screening for symptoms will not identify asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection, symptom screening remains an important strategy to identify those who could have COVID-19, so appropriate precautions can be implemented."