



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

## OSH ALERT 2022-03 [15 January 2022]

### CDC Revises COVID-19 Masking Guidance

Yesterday (14 January), The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) revised its recommendations regarding the types of masks that are best suited to protect the wearer against COVID-19 infection. In doing so, the agency acknowledged that simple cloth masks that are being frequently used **do not** provide an adequate level of protection.

The CDC's updated guidance recommends (amongst other things) that:

- ★ N95 respirators provide the best level of protection amongst all commonly available facepieces;
- ★ KN95 respirators provide the next best level of protection;
- ★ Simple cloth masks (and gaiters) can allow respirable viral particles to pass through;
- ★ Some masking is better than no masking at all; *and*
- ★ Any mask being worn should fit snugly, with no gaps allowing viral particle pass-through.

A link to yesterday's updated guidance:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html>

Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: [blueoceana@optonline.net](mailto:blueoceana@optonline.net)

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