



DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY**

March 23, 2020



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**TO:** Marin County Hospitals, Clinics, Medical Offices, Skilled Nursing Facilities, Correctional Facilities, and other Long-Term Care Facilities, Hospice, Home Health Agencies, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and other Health Facilities

**RE:** Suspension of Mandatory Masking for Healthcare Personnel who have not received the influenza vaccination during the 2019 – 20 Flu Season

Effective today, Monday, March 23, 2020, Marin County Public Health is suspending the requirement for healthcare personnel (HCP) who have not received their influenza vaccination to wear a mask. Facilities should review and implement [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE](#). Marin County Public Health strongly encourages all HCP to receive the flu vaccine this season. Flu is still widely circulating in Northern California.

**Background:**

State law requires that general acute care hospitals and certain other health care facilities offer influenza vaccination to employees and, for those employees who decline vaccination, maintain a record of the signed declination form (CA Code of Regulations §5199 Aerosol Transmissible Diseases).

**Amended Order:**

All health care facilities, including correctional facilities providing health care to inmates, and EMS providers in Marin County must implement a program requiring health care personnel or corrections officers to receive an annual influenza vaccination.

**Duration:**

The requirement to wear a mask is suspended immediately. Facilities subject to the Order should continue to promote influenza vaccination among health care personnel.

For any additional questions, please contact Marin County Public Health at (415) 473 4163. Thank you for your role in keeping Marin County one of the healthiest counties in California.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Santora MD, MPH  
Deputy Public Health Officer