

Should healthy people or asymptomatic carriers wear a mask?

A large, prospective, randomized clinical trial (RCT); and the first RCT ever conducted of cloth masks. Conclusion- **“This study is the first RCT of cloth masks, and the results caution against the use of cloth masks. Moisture retention, reuse of cloth masks and poor filtration may result in increased risk of infection”** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/5/4/e006577>

From University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health. **“Cloth masks are ineffective as source control and PPE, surgical masks have some role to play in preventing emissions from infected patients, and respirators are the best choice for protecting healthcare and other frontline workers, but not recommended for source control. These recommendations apply to pandemic and non-pandemic situations.”**

<https://publichealth.uic.edu/news-stories/commentary-masks-for-all-for-covid-19-not-based-on-sound-data/>

“WHO stands by recommendation to not wear masks if you are not sick or not caring for someone who is sick . . . There is no specific evidence to suggest that the wearing of masks by the mass population has any potential benefit. In fact, there’s some evidence to suggest the opposite in the misuse of wearing a mask properly or fitting it properly,” Dr. Mike Ryan, executive director of the WHO health emergencies program.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/30/world/coronavirus-who-masks-recommendation-trnd/index.html>

Although . . . **“CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission” . . . there are no scientific citations provided to support this on the page**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

CDC says masks don’t work for the flu. **“No recommendation can be made at this time for mask use in the community by asymptomatic persons, including those at high risk for complications, to prevent exposure to influenza viruses.”**

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/maskguidance.htm>

On a separate page related to face covering, the CDC provides seven publications to support their recommendation– but none of the studies support that wearing a mask is effective or safe in preventing transmission. They only support that transmission is person to person

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

On March 2, the U.S. Surgeon General said, **“one of the things they shouldn’t be doing, the general public, is going out and buying masks. It actually does not help and it has not been proven to be effective at preventing the spread of Corona virus decreasing amongst the general public”**. Interview: <https://video.foxnews.com/v/6137596907001#sp=show-clips> He tweeted on February 29th **“Seriously people -STOP BUYING MASKS! They are not effective in preventing the general public from catching the corona virus”**

READ studies that support community masking CRITICALLY: did they examine real-world conditions? Were masks, hands, touched objects, swabbed? The surrounding air tested?

For more information

<https://jennifermargulis.net/healthy-people-wearing-masks-during-covid19/>