



## Skilled Nursing Facilities Updated Health Officer Orders and Guidance

While the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19, including other future variants or subvariants, remains a concern for all Pasadena residents, the virus poses a particular risk to the health of medically vulnerable residents and people who might be exposed through necessity based on their circumstances. Patients, clients, and residents in health care settings have little choice about their potential exposure to COVID-19 when they seek care or reside in congregate settings, and many of them are at greater risk for complications related to COVID-19.

The updated Pasadena Health Officer Orders, [Order Requiring Wearing of Face Masks by Personnel, Patients, Clients, and Visitors in Health Care Settings](#) and [Order Requiring Vaccination of Health Care Workers](#) became effective April 3, 2023. In Pasadena, all healthcare workers are required to wear a well-fitted mask in patient/resident care areas. A “Well-Fitted Mask” means a face covering that is well-fitted to an individual and covers the nose and mouth especially while talking. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance regarding Well-Fitted Masks may be found at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html), and CDPH guidance may be found at [www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Get-the-Most-out-ofMasking.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Get-the-Most-out-ofMasking.aspx). In addition, COVID-19 vaccinations of primary series and at least one booster, is required for all health care workers <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-health-care-staff-vaccination-requirements-decision-tree-graphic.pdf>. Please review the updated Orders for specific details.

The Health Officer strongly recommends that everyone continue appropriate protections based on their situation, including the following measures:

- 1) following the CDC’s most current COVID-19 vaccination and booster guidance;
- 2) staying aware of treatments available to you if you get sick with COVID-19; and
- 3) being aware of information about COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.