

Emergency Medical Services San Mateo County Health 801 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 200 South San Francisco, CA 94080 smchealth.org/ems

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

Date: December 9, 2022

**To**: San Mateo County Prehospital EMS System Providers

FROM: Travis Kusman, MPH, Paramedic, EMS Director

Dr. Greg Gilbert, EMS Medical Director

**Subject**: Recommendations for use of N-95 and surgical masks (22–CLN–05)

Currently the County, like most of the nation, is experiencing high rates of respiratory illnesses, primarily COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

The EMS Agency strongly recommends that prehospital providers remain vigilant in protecting yourselves against these communicable diseases by wearing N-95 masks when performing patient care. Clinical condition and tolerance permitting, we also recommend placing surgical masks on patients.

If you have not already done so, please consider getting immunized against influenza and boosted for COVID-19.

Thank you for the flexibility, compassion, and commitment that you continue to demonstrate as our EMS system responds to these conditions.

On behalf of the EMS Agency, we wish you a safe, healthy and joyous holiday season.

