



Presenter Disclosure




Braden Manns MD MSc FRCPC
Co-Chair, Scientific Advisory Group, Alberta Health Services; Svare Professor, Health Economics & Nephrologist, Departments of Medicine & Community Health Science, University of Calgary; Health Scholar, Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions

Disclosure
None to Disclose

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In the corner with...




Dr. Braden Manns
Co-Chair
Scientific Advisory Group
Alberta Health Services


Do masks reduce the spread of COVID in the Community?



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Continuing Medical Education
and Professional Development



Physician Learning Program



Alberta Health Services

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albertahealthservices.ca — Private

Scientific Advisory Group COVID-19 Recommendations

novel coronavirus (COVID-19)


AHS' Scientific Advisory Group is connecting with clinicians, operational leaders, researchers and other experts to review emerging evidence and guidance of national and international bodies to provide information for focused areas of healthcare in relation to COVID-19. These resources are created to provide research informed advice to AHS physicians, staff, patients and families. Reports are updated frequently based on emerging evidence or concerns.

COVID-19 Resources for AHS Staff & Health Professionals

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COVID-19 Scientific Advisory Group Rapid Response Report

Key Research Question: What is the effectiveness of wearing medical masks, including home-made masks, to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the community? [Updated April 20, 2020]



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April 20, 2020

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Key Messages from the Evidence Summary

- Assessing the effectiveness of medical masks has been challenging
 - Systematic reviews of low quality studies in healthcare setting suggest reduction in ARI and ILI with medical mask use
 - Multiple inconclusive RCTs in the community, with lower quality studies suggesting reduced ILI in household members or ARI in mass gatherings
- Lab studies, modelling, ecological and anecdotal data suggest benefit to medical masks in the community, but there can be harms as well
- “No direct evidence that the use of a medical or homemade cloth mask or the wider use of masks in the community significantly reduces this risk”

April 20, 2020

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COVID-19 Self-Assessment >

Info for Albertans >

Info for Health Professionals >

Translated Resources >

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Clinical Guidance from Leaders

- [Key Research Question: What Is the Evidence For & Risks of Using Hydroxychloroquine \(HQ\) as a Treatment & Prophylaxis for SARS-CoV-2?](#)
- [Response to Media Reports about COVID-19 Virus Being Airborne](#)

Signage & Posters

- [View Full List](#)

Resources

- [COVID-19 FAQs for AHS Staff](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance Volunteer Resources](#)
- [COVID-19 Public Information](#)
- [COVID-19 Orders & Legislation](#)
- [COVID-19 Research Opportunities -bethecure.ca](#)
- [Healthcare Worker Self-Assessment Tool](#)
 - [Guidance While Waiting for a Return Call](#)
- [Information for Researchers](#)
- [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
- [Scientific Advisory Group Rapid Reviews](#)
- [Testing & Self-Isolation Criteria](#)
- [Triage Screening Criteria](#)

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For more information visit

- <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/ppih/if-ppih-covid-19-sag-mask-use-in-community-rapid-review.pdf>

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