



Dear Patients,

The West Champlain Family Health Team supports the Public Health Agency of Canada's recommendation of wearing a non-medical face mask in the community when it is not possible to maintain a distance of more than 2 meters from others. Therefore, we are in full agreement with the decision of the Renfrew County and District Health Unit mandating masks in indoor public spaces. Use of masks by the general public protects everyone from COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

Consequently, we will not be providing letters to exempt patients from wearing masks. This is consistent with the position of both the Renfrew County and District Health Unit as well as the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care recommendations. They add that patients who cannot tolerate wearing masks should minimize circumstances in which physical distancing is not possible, and that there is "no evidence that wearing a face mask will exacerbate (cause a "flare up" of) an underlying lung condition."

Please refer to public health recommendations (at the link below) regarding the proper use of a face mask and perform proper hand hygiene before and after putting one on, as well as frequently throughout the day.

<https://cts-sct.ca/covid-19/use-of-face-masks-by-the-public/>

Thank you.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

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