



Kenneth J. Tomecki, MD, FAAD President
Mark D. Kaufmann, MD, FAAD President-elect
Neal Bhatia, MD, FAAD Vice President
Linda F. Stein Gold, MD, FAAD Vice President-elect
Marta J. Van Beek, MD, MPH, FAAD Secretary-Treasurer
Daniel D. Bennett, MD, FAAD Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth K. Usher, MBA Executive Director & CEO

COVID-19 Mask Mandate — Delta Variant Update

According to the latest update from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on July 27, 2021, there is an increased rate of COVID-19 infections due to the Delta variant in the United States.¹⁻⁴

Briefly, fully vaccinated individuals can potentially spread the Delta variant if they become infected.⁴⁻⁶ As a result, the CDC has updated its mask mandate to recommend that fully vaccinated individuals wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).^{1,7} By wearing a mask, individuals can reduce the risk of being infected or spreading the Delta variant to others.

Individuals with a certain medical condition ([CDC guidance for people with medical conditions](#)) are advised to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission in their area.⁸

Considering the above updates by the CDC, the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) encourages dermatologists to recommend vaccination to their patients and enforce the mask mandate to prevent further outbreaks in high transmission communities. Additional updated information may also be found in the [AAD COVID-19 Resource Center](#).

To identify if your area has substantial or high transmission use the [online tool](#) to view COVID-19 infection rates by county.⁷

References

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CORRESPONDENCE

PO Box 1968
Des Plaines, IL 60017-1968

EMAIL: mrc@aad.org
WEB: aad.org

ROSEMONT, IL OFFICE

9500 W Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 500
Rosemont, IL 60018-5216

MAIN: (847) 330-0230
FAX: (847) 240-1859

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 540
Washington, DC 20004-2401

MAIN: (202) 842-3555
FAX: (202) 842-4355

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