## Press release

## UPDATED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE USE OF THE MASKS

**Baie-Comeau, April 17, 2023** – Following the easing of instructions on the use of the mask by the government and considering the region's epidemiological situation, the Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) de la Côte-Nord has updated the instructions on the use of the procedure mask in its facilities and in certain living environments.

Effective immediately, the mask is no longer mandatory for visitors, family caregivers and volunteers in outpatient clinics and waiting rooms of the following environments: hospitals, multiservice health and social services centres, CLSCs, family medicine groups (GMF) and medical clinics. However, the mask is still required for contacts with hospitalized users or users under observation on a gurney at the emergency department.

For users, the mask is no longer required, except in the presence of flu-like symptoms. However, users in hemodialysis and oncology must wear a mask at all times given their health condition.

For health care workers, wearing a mask remains mandatory at all times in the environments mentioned above for contacts with users or in users' environment when they are present. Wearing a mask is no longer required to move around the facilities and in common areas, but it is still recommended.

## Instructions for other environments

The procedure mask is no longer required for residents, visitors, family caregivers, volunteers and employees in the following environments: intermediate and family-type resources, seniors' residences, CHSLDs, youth centres, respite homes and hospices.

Wearing a mask is mandatory at all times in all environments in the following situations:

- Person with flu-like symptoms, such as fever and cough;
- Person who was in moderate- or high-risk contact with a positive flu or COVID-19 case for 10 days following the contact.
- Presence of an outbreak in the environment.

The CISSS de la Côte-Nord thanks you for your cooperation.

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