

Communiqué de presse

Pour publication immédiate

The CISSS des Laurentides requires everyone entering its facilities to wear a face covering

Saint-Jérôme, June 18, 2020 – In the last few weeks, the Québec government has strongly recommended wearing a face covering when in public places. With the gradual return of activities in our care facilities and the strengthening of measures against community transmission of COVID-19, the CISSS des Laurentides requires everyone who uses any of its facilities or receives care at home to wear a face covering (handcrafted mask or fabric covering the nose and mouth).

It has been demonstrated that some people carry the virus even if they have no symptoms. Wearing a face covering is an additional protective measure.

In line with recommendations from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS), patients presenting COVID-19 symptoms will, upon arrival at any CISSS des Laurentides service, receive a procedure mask that must be worn at all times.

Only children younger than 2 years old, people with respiratory problems or individuals unable to remove their face coverings without assistance will be exempted from wearing it.

As well, the CISSS des Laurentides would like to underline that if a patient refuses to wear a face covering, their appointment, if deemed non-urgent by a healthcare professional, may be postponed to a later date.

We remind all CISSS des Laurentides patients that wearing a face covering does not in any way replace protective measures such as hand-washing and physical distancing. These measures will continue to be applied rigorously in all our facilities.

For more information on wearing a face covering in the community, please consult the dedicated MSSS webpage: <u>https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/wearing-a-face-covering-in-public-settings-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-pandemic/</u>