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MCUC-ZA

12 August 2020

**MEMORANDUM FOR PATIENTS AND VISITORS OF MEDDAC-AK**

**SUBJECT: Commander's Policy Memorandum #29 - Mandatory COVID screening and face covers for individuals entering MEDDAC-AK facilities.**

**1. PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for all individuals entering MEDDAC-AK for services during COVID 19.**

**2. REFERENCES:**

a. Secretary of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings; 6 April 2020.

b. DHA Infection Prevention and Control Tiger Team Update for Universal Masking, Personal protective Equipment, and Work Practice Management Version 4; 10 July 20

c. The Joint Commission (TJC) Infection Prevention and Control Recommendation for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease; 2019

d. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic.

e. OPORD THAT STATED NO VALVE MASKS

**3. APPLICABILITY: Applies to all patients and visitors gaining entry into MEDDAC-AK facilities.**

**4. PROCEDURES/POLICIES:**

**a. COVID Screening**

1) Individuals will be screened for possible COVID symptoms and other risk factors (known exposure, isolation requirements, etc.) upon entry. All individuals are required to use hand sanitizer upon entry into MEDDAC-AK facilities.

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2) Individuals refusing to be screened for COVID symptoms and risk factors will be denied entry into facility due to potential safety and health risks to patients and MEDDAC-AK staff.

3) Individuals found to be deceptive during COVID screening will be asked to depart the premises.

b. Face coverings

1) Face coverings will be worn in all MEDDAC-AK public spaces and treatment areas regardless of the ability to socially distance.

2) Face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth.

3) Face coverings with "valves" are not permitted. These introduce exhaled particles into the environment and negate the importance of wearing masks.

4) Failure to comply with wearing a face covering may result in the refusal of services, and removal from the building.

5) Patients and visitors may remove their masks when eating or drinking while maintaining social distancing. Masks are to be replaced immediately upon finishing eating or drinking.

6) Patients and their visitors will wear a mask while receiving care in all inpatient and outpatient care areas to the greatest extent possible.

c. Exceptions to wearing face coverings

1) Individuals who are unable to wear appropriate face coverings for medical purposes are instructed to furnish appropriate documentation from their treating provider to their supervisor.

2) Children age two or younger.

3) Individuals in extremis requiring immediate care.

5. The proponent of this publication is the MEDDAC-AK Infection Prevention Manager, Ms. Vianne Smith. She can be reached at [vianne.l.smith.civ@mail.mil](mailto:vianne.l.smith.civ@mail.mil).



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