



**For Immediate Release**

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Contact:

**Caitlin McCann**

VP, Marketing and Communications

315-624-5433

[cmccann@mvhealthsystem.org](mailto:cmccann@mvhealthsystem.org)

**Masking No Longer Required at MVHS**

UTICA, N.Y. – The MVHS Infection Prevention team has been tracking community transmission levels of COVID-19 in Oneida County and surrounding areas, as well as with MVHS patients and staff. At this time, transmission has reached a level where masking is **no longer** required. This is effective immediately.

According to the NYS Department of Health, flu is still prevalent in the State which means any unvaccinated staff members must wear a mask while in areas where patients or residents may be present.

Individuals may choose to wear a mask based on personal preference, informed by their perceived level of risk for infection and their potential for developing severe disease.

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