



Leadership

Toni Preckwinkle
President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

Israel Rocha, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer, Cook County Health

Rachel Rubin, MD, MPH, FACP
Co-Lead and Senior Medical Officer

Kiran Joshi, MD, MPH
Co-Lead and Senior Medical Officer

Board of Directors

Lyndon Taylor
Chair of the Board

Hon. Dr. Dennis Deer, LCPC, CCFC
Vice Chair of the Board

Robert Currie
Raul Garza
Ada Mary Gugenheim
Joseph M. Harrington
Karen E. Kim, MD, MS

Mike Koetting
David Ernesto Munar
Heather M. Prendergast, MD, MS, MPH
Robert G. Reiter, Jr.
Otis L. Story, Sr.

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Don Bolger
(630) 589-2975

donald.bolger@cookcountyhealth.org

**COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MANDATES INDOOR MASK WEARING**

*Rising COVID-19 Case Counts, Highly Contagious Delta Variant
Force Remediation Action*

Forest Park, IL - Aug. 20, 2021 - The Cook County Department of Public Health today announced that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear a mask indoors, beginning on Monday, Aug. 23. The order (below) requires that all people above age two who can medically tolerate a mask to wear one in multi-unit residential buildings and public places, such as restaurants, movie theaters, retail establishments, fitness clubs, and on public transportation.

"We are in a dangerous period, with the Delta variant surging, during which we must return to previous remediation measures," said Dr. Rachel Rubin, Co-Lead and Senior Medical Officer of Cook County Department of Public Health. "We have no choice but to mandate that people wear masks indoors to help contain this spread of the virus."

According to the order, businesses will be required to post signage that states that masks are required. CCDPH has created a sign that can be posted by employers and it can be found on the CCDPH website at:

<https://cookcountypublichealth.org/ccdph-covid-19-communications/>

"As the virus changes, we need to adapt our guidance and recommendations to keep residents safe," said Dr. Kiran Joshi, Co-Lead and Senior Medical Officer of Cook County Department of Public Health. "This variant is highly contagious and represents over 90 percent of our recent cases. We must act now."