

COVID-19 Bulletin

 Southcoast Health

Exclusively for the employees
of Southcoast Health

December 17, 2021

Greetings, Southcoast Colleagues.

In this Bulletin, you will find the following:

- **Reminder on proper use of N95 respirator masks**
- **Clips available through Employee Health for use with loop masks to decrease ear irritation**
- **STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases**

Please scroll through the entire Bulletin for these updates, and be sure to visit Southcoast's [COVID-19 Employee Hub](#).

Thank you.

Reminder on proper use of N95 respirator masks

Please note that ear loop clips, straps, rings or extensions, including buttons on headbands, **should NOT be used** with any fitted N95 respirator mask as they can impact and break the seal, placing the user at risk for exposure.

Clips available through Employee Health for use with loop masks to decrease ear irritation

To decrease irritation behind the ears from surgical-type ear loop masks, clips are available in Employee Health for use with all masks that do not require specific fittings and fit testing.

STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases

Currently, we have 117 patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 hospitalized across our system – with 18 positive cases in ICU. In addition, we currently have no PUI currently hospitalized across our system.

COVID-19 daily dashboards, generated by the Southcoast Analytics Team, are available [here](#).

Thank you, and be well.