**Battle Mountain General Hospital Updates Mask Policy**

Battle Mountain General Hospital has modified its mask requirements for patients and visitors within the healthcare facility.

CDC recently released updated guidance stating that universal masking is no longer required in healthcare facilities unless the facilities’ community transmission levels are high.

When COVID-19 community transmission levels are high, or when there is a positive Covid-19 case in the facility, masks will be required for all patients, staff and visitors in Battle Mountain General Hospital and Battle Mountain Clinic.

When COVID-19 community transmission levels are not high and there is not positive in the facility, masks will not be required within BMGH. However, it remains recommended for individuals in healthcare settings who:

* Have suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection or other respiratory infection (including those with a runny nose, cough, or sneeze); or
* Had close contact (patients and visitors) or a higher-risk exposure with someone with COVID-19 infection for ten days after their exposure or
* Reside or work on a unit or area of the facility experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak.

**Look for a color coded sign at the entrance to indicate if masks are required.**

* **Green** — No Masks Required sign at each entrance.
* **Red** – Face Masks Required sign at each entrance.

Mask requirements may change daily, so these signs will serve as visual reminders to alert anyone entering BMGHwhen masks are required and when they are not.

Please look for these signs and be aware of your surroundings.

Masks are required for those experiencing respiratory symptoms, those with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and anyone having close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

Masks are needed in these cases regardless of the sign’s color at the entrances.

Individuals may also choose to continue using masks based on personal preference.