



## Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia

Chair:  
Russell MacSween, DDS

Registrar:  
Doug Mackey, DDS

Deputy Registrar  
Curtis Gregoire, DDS,  
MD, MSc

### Discontinuation of Mandatory Masking for Patients in Dental Offices May 27, 2023

At the PDBNS Board meeting on May 26, 2023, the masking policy for dental offices was revisited. After careful consideration and deliberation, the decision was made to end the mandatory masking policy for non-clinical areas of dental offices.

Dental offices are encouraged to set their own masking policies as they deem appropriate.

Registrants must abide by the masking requirements in the [2022 PDBNS Standard of Practice for Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\)](#). This includes that oral healthcare providers **must** wear masks, at a minimum, when:

- providing direct patient care (including making impressions and exposing dental radiographs), and
- performing disinfection and instrument reprocessing procedures.

Also, as per the [IPAC Standard](#), patients who are known, or suspected, to have a respiratory infection (and whose treatment cannot be deferred) **must** be offered a mask upon entry.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Doug Mackey, DDS  
Registrar