

## **NJDOC UPDATE ON COVID PROCEDURES**

**Effective Feb. 20, 2023**

**Significant changes are coming to COVID-19 practices.**

**NOTE: Most routine testing and quarantine incarcerated persons will cease, in line with CDC guidelines. Masking will no longer be required in most situations. Read below for complete information.**

**[read more]**

**Feb. 20, 2023**

### **MAJOR COVID UPDATE**

This will represent what is anticipated to be one of the most significant changes in implementation of updated directives following nationwide relaxation of prior practices related to COVID-19.

The NJDOC updated guidelines for staff and IP mitigation is guided by recent updates to CDC recommendations. All updates have been vetted through the Health Service Unit, Rutgers University contracted healthcare provider, and the New Jersey Department of Health. Continual monitoring and data trending of NJDOC IP, staff, and community spread levels have additionally informed these decisions.

The following measures are to be implemented effective February 20, 2023.

As always, thank you for your cooperation as we transition.

- Routine Covid-19 testing and routine quarantines for incarcerated persons will cease in line with CDC guidelines. Contact tracing, non-routine testing, and isolation placements will continue to be guided by a healthcare provider.-Intake testing will remain in place for incarcerated persons received from County Jails.
- Continue with frequent sanitizing of common areas for both staff and incarcerated population.
- Staff and incarcerated persons are to mask at all times in the following areas: all medical, mental health and dental areas at all times and in ALL areas when the COVID community level of the institution is high (Orange).
- Incarcerated persons shall be strongly encouraged to wear cloth or surgical masks when outside their sleeping area when COVID community level is high.