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## Public Health Advisory: Easing of Community Masking Mandate and other Public Health Measures to Mitigate the Community Spread of Covid-19.

As of 9/19/2022, the MOHHS has assessed the level of community transmission of Covid-19 on Majuro, Ebeye and the neighboring islands (where this disease has been introduced) as very low.

Community-based surveillance of Covid-19 will be an important epidemiological tool in informing decision making relating to mask mandates and other public health measures put in place as a mitigation strategy against community transmission.

At this point in time, the mask wearing mandate is now limited to the following situations:

- All persons entering a hospital or a health facility.
- Public transportation (including taxis, airplanes, and inter-island shipping).

Situations where mask wearing is now optional or advised:

- Private businesses and institutions can issue their own mask mandates or eliminate mask wearing based on their own risk assessments.
- All individuals who are not fully vaccinated and who are at risk of severe disease are strongly recommended to continue wearing masks when in shared public spaces.

Members of the public are strongly recommended to continue practicing good hand hygiene, cough etiquette and the public should also continue to be socially responsible. These measures not only protect against surges of Covid-19, but also other respiratory diseases such as influenza and seasonal flu.

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