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From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government
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To: Public Record
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0555

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Against Topic

Comment

They say the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over while expecting a different result. The Executive summary is that any cost effective mask simply will not work to prevent any viral transmission. Viruses are extremely small. The only way they can replicate is by inserting themselves into the host's cell, hijacking their replication mechanisms, and then making dozens to hundreds of copies until the cell lyses. In order to fit inside of a cell, that means the virus must be dozens to hundreds of times smaller and this is often the case. Coronaviruses in particular are between 50-140 nanometers. Their notable small size aids them in being transmissible and their ability to cross certain barriers. The N95 mask is aptly named. According to any manufacturer website's description, It has a 95% chance on its best day, to filter out particles that are >.3 microns in size. The conversion from 50-140 nanometers to microns is .05 - .14 microns. This means the coronavirus is approximately 3 times smaller in diameter than the best part of the mask's filtration area. Again, on a fundamental physical level, the coronavirus is at least 3 times smaller than the "best" mask. This is why masking didn't work before, doesn't work now and will never work. You simply cannot filter a particle that is smaller than your filter. It really really is this simple. Catching some oversized droplets does not help stop the spread since the oversized ones weren't going to be airborne anyway. There is also the issue to proper mask hygiene standards and protocols:

assuming you had a proper gas mask, you cannot get a good seal if you have any facial hair or the average person's nonexistent decontamination. Using the average mask to stop a virus is like trying to stop mosquitoes using a chainlink fence. It just doesn't work. I found Charles County welcoming when I moved in 2009 after my military service and I am looking forward to seeing those welcoming smiles again.

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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