

Atrium Health Floyd Easing Masking and Visitor Restrictions

Change in Policy Starts This Thursday

ROME, Ga., March 26, 2025 – Atrium Health Floyd is lifting temporary masking and visitor restrictions due to a steady decrease in respiratory illnesses among patients and teammates.

The change will take effect at 7 a.m. Thursday, March 27. Additionally, children 12 and under will again be able to visit Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center, Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center and Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center.

Masks will continue to be available for visitors who wish to wear them.

There are some exceptions. Anyone with respiratory symptoms should not visit, and masking is required for all individuals in high-risk patient areas, when indicated by signage and for symptomatic patients if outside their patient room.

“After a very busy respiratory season, the hospital is seeing a steady decline in the number of respiratory viral infections,” said Sheila Bennett, senior vice president and chief of patient services at Atrium Health Floyd. “Based on this steady decline, we will be lifting the heightened masking requirements. We will continue to monitor the situation and will act promptly to implement necessary infection prevention practices to keep patients, families and teammates safe.”

“We have seen a steady decline in respiratory viral infections in the past several weeks,” said Sheila Bennett, senior vice president and chief of patient services at Atrium Health Floyd. “We will be ready to respond if there are any changes. We are committed to providing safe, high-quality care to all patients.”

To reduce the chances of getting sick from respiratory viruses, health care leaders recommend practicing good hand hygiene, including frequent handwashing with soap and warm water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands, and stay home if you are sick.

About Atrium Health Floyd

The [Atrium Health Floyd](#) family of health care services is a leading medical provider and economic force in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Atrium Health Floyd is part of Charlotte, North Carolina-based [Advocate Health](#), the third-largest nonprofit health system in the United States, created from the combination of [Atrium Health](#) and Advocate Aurora Health. Atrium Health Floyd strategically combined with Harbin Clinic in 2024 and employs more than 5,200 teammates who provide care in over 40 medical specialties at four facilities: Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center – a 361-bed full-service, acute care hospital and regional referral center in Rome, Georgia; Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center in Cedartown, Georgia; and Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center in Centre, Alabama; and Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center Behavioral Health, also in Rome. Together, Atrium Health Floyd and Harbin Clinic provide primary care, specialty care and urgent care throughout northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Atrium Health Floyd also operates a stand-alone emergency department in Chattooga County, the first such facility to be built from the ground-up in Georgia.

About Advocate Health

[Advocate Health](#) is the third-largest nonprofit, integrated health system in the United States, created from the combination of Advocate Aurora Health and Atrium Health. Providing care under the names [Advocate Health Care](#) in Illinois; [Atrium](#)

[Health](#) in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama; and [Aurora Health Care](#) in Wisconsin, Advocate Health is a national leader in clinical innovation, health outcomes, consumer experience and value-based care. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Advocate Health services nearly 6 million patients and is engaged in hundreds of clinical trials and research studies, with [Wake Forest University School of Medicine](#) serving as the academic core of the enterprise. Advocate Health is nationally recognized for its expertise in heart and vascular, neurosciences, oncology, pediatrics and rehabilitation, as well as organ transplants, burn treatments and specialized musculoskeletal programs. Advocate Health employs more than 160,000 teammates across 69 hospitals and over 1,000 care locations and offers one of the nation's largest graduate medical education programs with over 2,000 residents and fellows across more than 200 programs. Committed to redefining care for all, Advocate Health provides more than \$6 billion in annual community benefits.

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