

MMA urges people to carry a face mask and be responsible to keep infections at bay

By [Dhesegaan Bala Krishnan](#) - September 8, 2022 @ 12:07am



The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has advised Malaysians to still carry a face mask when they leave their homes although the government has made its use optional in most places. - Bernama pic

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has advised Malaysians to still carry a face mask when they leave their homes although the government has made its use optional in most places.

MMA president Dr Koh Kar Chai said the onus is now on the people to wear a face mask, whenever necessary, to curb the spread of Covid-19 and other airborne diseases.

"The people should remember that there are still Covid-19 infections being reported around us and each of us has to be responsible in keeping the infections at bay.

"Though there are many instances where the mask mandate has been removed, we still need to be vigilant and keep a face mask on hand to be used when needed.

"I believe that our people are mature enough to understand social responsibility after having experienced more than two years of the pandemic.

"Face mask wearing is not only for preventing the spread of Covid-19 but is also useful to prevent the spread of other airborne infections.

"We are currently facing a high number of Influenza infections and the judicious use of face masks will help in the control of Influenza as well," he said in a statement today.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin earlier announced that wearing a face mask indoors will be made optional.

Khairy said premises owners could also decide if their patrons were required to put on a face mask or make it optional for them.

However, he stressed that wearing of face masks was still mandatory in all healthcare facilities, such as hospitals, clinics and nursing homes, and said it was recommended that those in high-risk groups continue to don the masks.