




Universal use of face masks for success against COVID-19: evidence and implications for prevention policies

Susanna Esposito¹, Nicola Principi², Chi Chi Leung³ and Giovanni Battista Migliori ⁴

Affiliations: ¹Pediatric Clinic, Pietro Barilla Children's Hospital, University of Parma, Parma, Italy. ²Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy. ³Hong Kong Tuberculosis, Chest and Heart Diseases Association, Hong Kong, China. ⁴Servizio di Epidemiologia Clinica delle Malattie Respiratorie, Istituti Clinici Scientifici Maugeri IRCCS, Tradate, Italy.

Correspondence: Susanna Esposito, Pietro Barilla Children's Hospital, Dept of Medicine and Surgery, University of Parma, Via Gramsci 14, 43126 Parma, Italy. E-mail: susanna.esposito@unimi.it



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Cloth masks are a simple, economic and sustainable alternative to surgical masks as a means of source control of SARS-CoV-2 in the general community <https://bit.ly/2x2xTL4>

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To the Editor:

A debate is taking place on the use of face masks (both cloth and surgical) as a prevention tool in the community *vis à vis* the recent World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations. To shed light on this important topic, we reviewed relevant literature, focusing on the keywords “infection control”, “prevention”, “masks”, “respirators”, “viral infections” and “COVID-19”, without time restrictions to identify a minimum set of references from an electronic database (PUBMED), existing guidelines, viral diseases, airborne diseases and grey literature.