

How do you protect your staff? Do you require your patients to wear

See how another office is approaching these questions.

My practice is taking additional precautions that I want to share.

We made the decision to issue an N95 masks to every employee. We have a spreadsheet to know which employees have been given one and which need to be done. There was a news article of a family of a Walmart employee that sued Walmart after the employee died from COVID-19. The family stated the company did not do enough to protect their employees. That was enough motivation for me and I pulled an Oprah and gave out 1 mask to everyone in the office.

I also sent out two documents that I have attached to this post. Just one disclaimer, if someone does lose their mask, I will offer them a replacement at cost for the first one. Any additional will be a \$25 fee to deter people from buying them. I explained to them in an email they need to be responsible for their mask just like how car keys are necessary to start their car or wallet is to pay for groceries.

The other document is instructional on how to decontaminate their mask at home. This was shared by a local physician and thought it would be beneficial. I keep the small extra stash of masks under my desk.

The other great idea came from another medical practice in town. They are making masks for patients to wear if they don't come with one. The mask is made out of shop towels, rubber bands and staples. Not perfect but every little bit helps, right? They produced a YouTube video on how they make the masks. I am offering it to you as I feel they did a great job for those of us that are crafty-challenged (like me).

Here is the link: m.youtube.com/watch?v=mai-UqdNRi8

We have not made it mandatory for any patient to wear a mask other than when they are having an ultrasound. But, most patients appreciate the offer and have accepted our handmade masks.