



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

9 April 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/SG
ATTN: MDG/CC

SUBJECT: COVID-19 MESSAGE FROM THE AIR FORCE SURGEON GENERAL

Everyday we are learning more about the Coronavirus that causes COVID-19. It is now clear that some people who feel well may be in the early stages of COVID-19, or have very mild symptoms, but can still spread the virus. To do all that we can to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we recommend the use of a cloth face covering to be worn in public and when social distance of 6 feet is difficult to maintain. The cloth face covering may prevent the wearer from spreading the virus when coughing or sneezing. This is consistent with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The primary defense against the virus continues to be social distancing, hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette and robust surface cleaning. The cloth face covering is just one way Airmen can help stop the spread of COVID-19.

The cloth face covering is not occupational protective equipment. Cloth face coverings are recommended out of an abundance of caution to reduce the spread of the respiratory infections. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are attached to address common questions. Please visit the CDC website for detailed information about COVID-19 and the use of cloth face coverings. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

Your health is my top priority. Together we will get through this.