Mayo Clinic Minute: Study shows masks can prevent COVID-19

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<td>Do face masks work at preventing COVID-19 transmission?</td>
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Dr. Berbari

"Masks don't work unless we wear them."

That's what Mayo Clinic researchers say they proved in a recent study.

---NATS of mannequin ---

Matthew Callstrom, M.D.
Radiology
Mayo Clinic

"We found objectively that masks are critically important. They're very effective at protecting the people around you. If you're wearing a mask, you're protecting others. If they're wearing masks, they're protecting you."

----NATS of mannequin ---

The experiments used masked and unmasked mannequins that simulated the spread of respiratory droplets and measured it at various distances.

Dr. Callstrom

"The most important transmission of COVID-19 particle is respiratory droplet. We measured the aerosol particles which are even smaller. And we found that masking was very effective even for those particles, the smallest ones."

The study showed that both disposable paper medical masks and two-layer cloth masks reduced droplet transmission.

Elie Berbari, M.D.
Infectious Diseases
Mayo Clinic

"We're all tired of wearing masks. But I think this is really highlighting the importance of that."

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jason Howland.