

To: [redacted]@ec.europa.eu [redacted]@ec.europa.eu  
Cc: [redacted]@minvws.nl; [redacted]@rivm.nl; [redacted]@minvws.nl; [redacted]@minvws.nl;  
From: [redacted]  
Sent: Mon 4/6/2020 7:46:01 AM  
Subject: NL input on ECDC guidance on masks RE: Draft report HSC Audio meeting 3/4/20  
Received: Mon 4/6/2020 7:46:05 AM

Dear HSC Secretariat,

Please find below the input from NL on the ECDC guidance on masks.

*In the Netherlands, we do not advise the general public to wear face masks for the following reasons:*

- *As the ECDC study shows, there is little evidence that this is an effective intervention for source control*
- *it might lead to further spread by frequent face touching*
- *it might lead to decreased adherence to other control measures such as social distancing*
- *there is shortage of masks*

*We strongly advise to adjust the conclusion in the guidance document, that there is little evidence of effectivity of this intervention, that implementation should be very carefully considered as it might have negative side effect and other control measures are far more effective.*

Kind regards,

[redacted]



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Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport

Directie Publieke Gezondheid | Crisisbeheersing en Infectieziekten  
Parnassusplein 5 | 2511 VX | Den Haag  
Postbus 20350 | 2500 EJ | Den Haag  
06 [redacted]  
[redacted]@minvws.nl | [www.rijksoverheid.nl](http://www.rijksoverheid.nl)

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Dubbel