



## Study Comparing Surgical and N95 Masks Sparks Concern

[https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/984992#vp\\_1](https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/984992#vp_1)

[Medical Masks Versus N95 Respirators for Preventing COVID-19 Among Health Care Workers : A Randomized Trial - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)

“The confidence intervals around this, that is, what the possible results could be if the trial was repeated many times, range from  $-2.5\%$  to  $4.9\%$ ,” he told *Medscape*. “This means that the risk of a COVID-19 infection in those using the medical masks could have ranged from anywhere from  $2.5\%$  reduction in risk to a  $4.9\%$  increase in risk. Readers and policy makers can decide for themselves about this.”

Dr. Shepherd opinion — A CI that crosses zero typically means that the predictor has NO relationship with the response. The study did not, likely, have enough subjects to determine if there is a causal relationship. In this case, I would not change my opinion or practice based on this study.