

“THAT’S WHAT THE MASK IS FOR”, THE PROF TEST IS A SUCCESS

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What does a mask do?

It blocks respiratory droplets from the mouth and throat.” Professor Richard Davis, director of the clinical microbiology laboratory at the Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, Washington state, with an elementary test highlighted the importance of the use of the mask. He documented his test on Twitter and achieved an amazing success, with hundreds of thousands of retweets and likes.

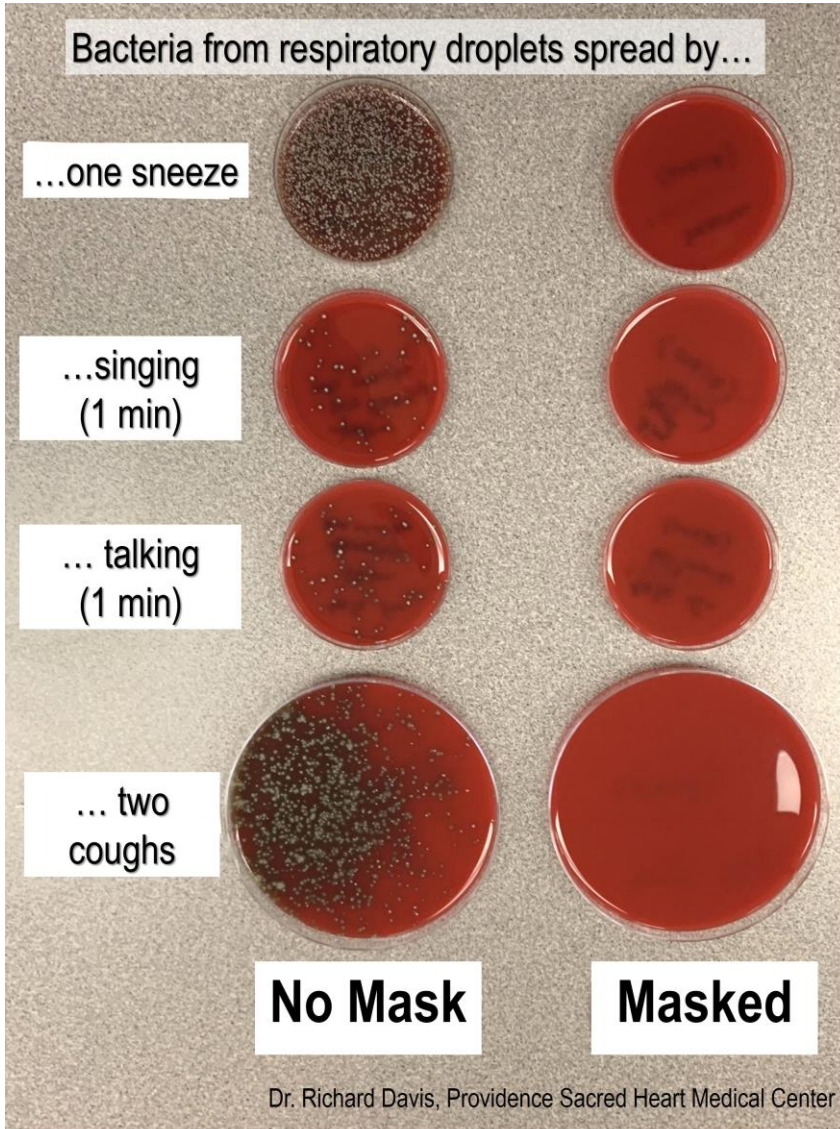


“Two simple examples. The first: I sneezed, sang, spoke and coughed towards an agar culture plate with or without a mask. Colonies of bacteria show where the droplets have fallen. A mask basically blocks them “, he writes by publishing eloquent photos: the plates not protected by the masks show a clearly superior bacterial presence. The experiment does not refer to the presence of Covid-19 in the droplets but of generic bacteria in the ‘droplets’.

On Twitter, the experiment is a huge success and Davis has to answer dozens of comments and questions. “It is 100% true – he says answering a user – “Bacteria are incredibly different from viruses. But since it is believed that Covid-19 spreads mainly through droplets, I exploit the presence of bacteria in droplets to show where they are going.”

“Davis, who recognizes the empirical nature of the test, used a surgical mask. The scientist, as documented by another photo, he also performed a further test: he coughed “violently” at different distances from the plates. First with the mask, then without. Also in this case, the protective device it worked.

–SEE VISUAL ON FOLLOWING PAGE –



Note: In this demonstration presence of bacteria (not viruses) on plates is only meant to be a proxy for microbes present in respiratory droplets.

Likely, smaller aerosolized droplets (that could carry viruses like SARS-CoV-2) are also produced by coughing, sneezing etc. and that these would travel further and stay in the air longer than larger respiratory droplets.

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