

6 MASKS, WORN FOR AN AVERAGE OF 5.7 HOURS/DAY

83%

CONTAMINATED

96

UNIQUE STRAINS

21

PATHOGENIC STRAINS

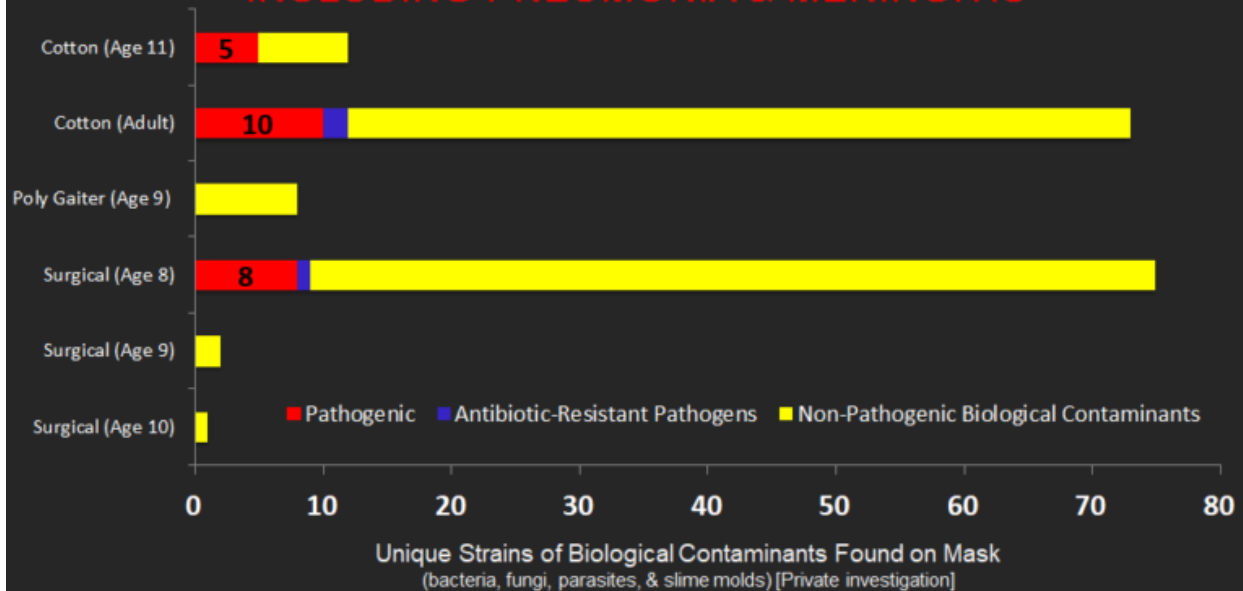
50%

MASKS CONTAMINATED W/PATHOGENS

33%

W/ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANT STRAINS

MULTIPLE STRAINS FOUND CAUSING DANGEROUS DISEASES, INCLUDING PNEUMONIA & MENINGITIS



# Dangerous pathogens found on children's face masks

in [COVID-19](#)



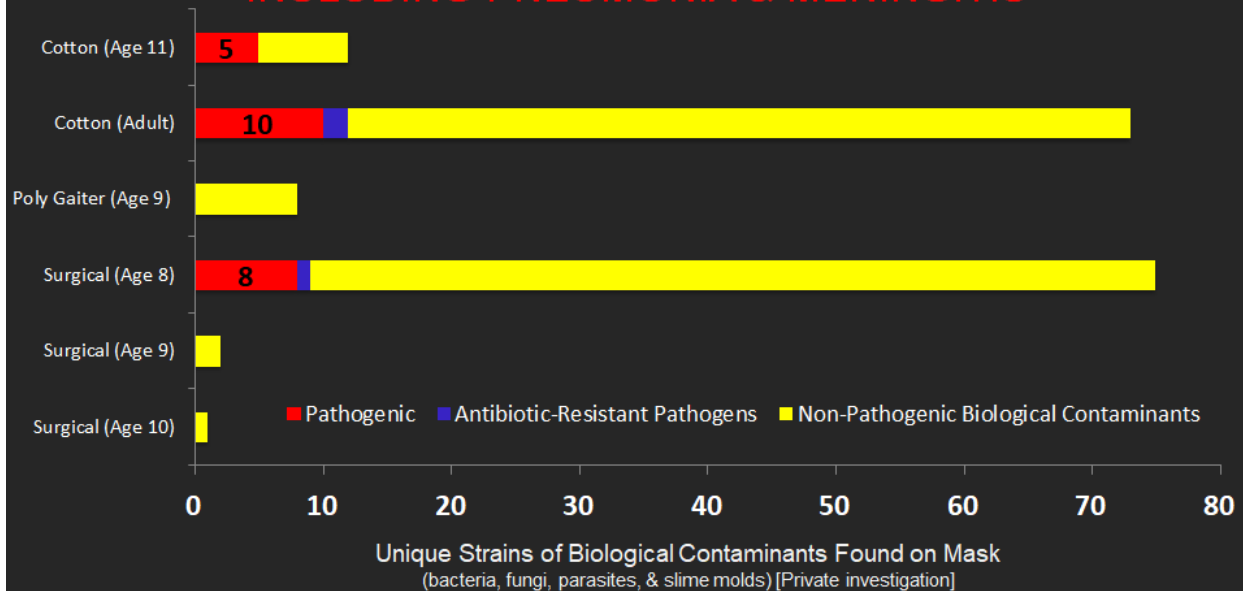
06/16/2021

<https://rationalground.com/dangerous-pathogens-found-on-childrens-face-masks/>

## 6 MASKS, WORN FOR AN AVERAGE OF 5.7 HOURS/DAY



MULTIPLE STRAINS FOUND CAUSING DANGEROUS DISEASES,  
INCLUDING PNEUMONIA & MENINGITIS



BY JENNIFER CABRERA

A group of parents in Gainesville, FL, sent 6 face masks to a lab at the University of Florida, requesting an analysis of contaminants found on the masks after they had been worn. The resulting report found that five masks were contaminated with bacteria, parasites, and fungi, including three with dangerous pathogenic and pneumonia-causing bacteria. Although the test is capable of detecting viruses, including SARS-CoV-2, only one virus was found on one mask (*alcelaphine herpesvirus 1*).

The analysis detected the following 11 dangerous pathogens on the masks:

- *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumonia)
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (tuberculosis)

- *Neisseria meningitidis* (meningitis, sepsis)
- *Acanthamoeba polyphaga* (keratitis and granulomatous amebic encephalitis)
- *Acinetobacter baumannii* (pneumonia, blood stream infections, meningitis, UTIs—resistant to antibiotics)
- *Escherichia coli* (food poisoning)
- *Borrelia burgdorferi* (causes Lyme disease)
- *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* (diphtheria)
- *Legionella pneumophila* (Legionnaires' disease)
- *Staphylococcus pyogenes serotype M3* (severe infections—high morbidity rates)
- *Staphylococcus aureus* (meningitis, sepsis)

Half of the masks were contaminated with one or more strains of pneumonia-causing bacteria. One-third were contaminated with one or more strains of meningitis-causing bacteria. One-third were contaminated with dangerous, antibiotic-resistant bacterial pathogens. In addition, less dangerous pathogens were identified, including pathogens that can cause fever, ulcers, acne, yeast infections, strep throat, periodontal disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and more.

PATHOGEN	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<b>acinetobacter baumannii</b>	Bacteria	pneumonia, blood stream infections, meningitis, wound and surgical site infections and urinary tract infections Resistant to antibiotics and very difficult to treat.
<b>alcelaphine herpesvirus 1</b>	Virus	Natural hosts primarily cow, but is fatal
<b>Borrelia burgdorferi</b>	Bacteria	Causes Lyme disease
<b>corynebacterium jeikeium</b>	Bacteria	infection in bone marrow transplant patients
<b>corynebacterium kroppenstedtii</b>	Bacteria	antibiotic resistant pathogen
<b>cutibacterium acnes</b>	Bacteria	Causes acne, blepharitis and endophthalmitis
<b>encephalitozoon cuniculi</b>	Bacteria	Pathogenic in immunocompromised people
<b>Escherichia coli</b>	Bacteria	Found in lower intestine and can cause food poisoning
<b>francisella tularensis</b>	Bacteria	Causes tularemia, fever, skin ulcers, sore throat and pneumonia
<b>mycobacterium tuberculosis</b>	Bacteria	Causes Tuberculosis
<b>neisseria meningitidis Serogroup A</b>	Bacteria	Extremely pathogenic. Causes meningitis and life threatening sepsis
<b>neisseria meningitidis Serogroup B</b>	Bacteria	Extremely pathogenic. Causes meningitis and life threatening sepsis
<b>neisseria meningitidis Serogroup C</b>	Bacteria	Extremely pathogenic. Causes meningitis and life threatening sepsis
<b>parabacteroides distasonis</b>	Bacteria	Causes infections
<b>porphyromonas gingivalis</b>	Bacteria	Found in the oral cavity causing periodontal disease as well as upper gastrointestinal tract, respiratory infections
<b>Rickettsia rickettsii</b>	Bacteria	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
<b>staphylococcus aureus</b>	Bacteria	range of illnesses from minor skin infections to life threatening pneumonia, meningitis and sepsis
<b>streptococcus pneumoniae</b>	Bacteria	Major cause pneumonia
<b>streptococcus pneumoniae serotype 19F</b>	Bacteria	Major cause of pneumonia
<b>streptococcus pyogenes</b>	Bacteria	Causes strep throat
<b>streptococcus pyogenes serotype M3</b>	Bacteria	Causes strep throat

Here is an image of the infection *francisella tularensis*, which causes tularemia, fever, skin ulcers, sore throat, and pneumonia:



The face masks studied were new or freshly-laundered before wearing and had been worn for 5 to 8 hours, most during in-person schooling by children aged 6 through 11. One was worn by an adult. A t-shirt worn by one of the children to school and unworn masks were tested as controls. No pathogens were found on the controls; samples from the front top and bottom of the t-shirt found proteins that are commonly found in skin and hair, along with some commonly found in soil.

A parent who participated in the study, Ms. Amanda Donoho, commented that this small sample points to a need for more research: “We need to know what we are putting on the faces of our children each day. Masks provide a warm, moist environment for bacteria to grow.”

The parents contracted with the lab because they were concerned about the potential of contaminants on masks that their children were forced to wear all day at school, taking them on and off, setting them on various surfaces, wearing them in the bathroom, etc. This prompted them to send the masks to the University of Florida’s Mass Spectrometry Research and Education Center for analysis.

[Click to view the mask reports.](#)