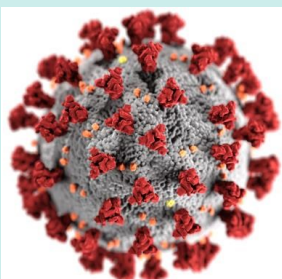


IPC Bulletin for Care Home staff

Issue No. 23 — April 2020

To support Care Home staff, here is some information on good infection prevention and control (IPC) practice.



COVID-19 (Coronavirus)



This is our second Bulletin on COVID-19. The situation with coronavirus is changing daily with latest updates issued by Public Health England on 06/04/20 available to download at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control

Please refer to 'COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE)' which contains information on 'single use' and 'sessional use' of PPE. There is also helpful information on 'COVID-19: visual guide to safe PPE' and 'Frequently Asked Questions on wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)' available to download.

Public Health England, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, CIG NHS, Health Protection Scotland, HSC Public Health Agency, NHS

Recommended PPE for primary, outpatient and community care by setting, NHS and independent sector

Setting	Context	Disposable Goggles	Disposable Face Shields	Disposable Head-mounted coverings	Surgical masks	Fluid-resistant Goggles (eye protection)	Filtering face piece respirator	Eye/Face protection
Any setting	Performing an aerosol-generating procedure ¹ on a possible or confirmed case ²	✓ single use ³	✗	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³
Primary care, ambulatory care, and other non-emergency outpatient and other clinical settings e.g. optometry, dental, maternity, mental health	Direct patient care – possible or confirmed case ² (within 2 metres)	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}
	Working in reception/consultant areas with possible or confirmed case ² and unable to maintain 2 metres social distance ⁵	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓ sessional use ³	✗	✗
Individuals own home (current place of residence)	Direct care to any member of the household where any member of the household is a possible or confirmed case ²	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}	✗	✓ risk session single or sessional use ^{3,4}
	Direct care or aid to any individual in the extremely vulnerable group or where a member of the household is within the extremely vulnerable group undergoing shielding ⁶	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✗	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✗
	Home care where any member of the household is a possible or confirmed case ²	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}
Community care home, mental health facilities and other overnight care facilities e.g. learning disability, hospices, prison healthcare	Facility with possible or confirmed case ² – and direct resident care (within 2 metres)	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✓ sessional use ³	✗	✓ risk session single or sessional use ^{3,4}
Any setting	Collection of nasopharyngeal swabs ⁷	✓ single use ³	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{3,4}

Table 2

1. This may be single use or reusable facepiece for full face view or goggles.
2. The risk of aerosol-generating procedures is higher for the patient type. APOs are undergoing a further review at present.
3. This may be disposable or reusable.
4. Single use refers to disposal of PPE – decomposition of reusable items e.g. see definition in paragraph 10 of the Standard Infection Control Opinions (SICO).
5. Single session refers to a period of time where health care is provided in a facility with appropriate engineering e.g. an operating theatre, theatre, or a room with the health care worker within the air containment zone.
6. Individuals are most at risk in the household and are most at risk of hospital cases. PPE should be disposed of after each session in a bin (plastic, lined, or permeable).
7. Non-sterile and should be replaced if contaminated. PPE should be changed when there is a high risk of contamination.
8. This assessment should take place by the person or a 2 metres social distance in an area where the health or social care worker assesses that an individual is symptomatic with suspected/confirmed case appropriate PPE should be put on prior to providing care.
9. The assessment should take place by the person or a 2 metres social distance in an area where the health or social care worker assesses that an individual is symptomatic with suspected/confirmed case appropriate PPE should be put on prior to providing care.

Recommended PPE for primary, outpatient and community care by setting, NHS and independent sector (see Table 2) on the link above.

Please also refer to Table 4: Additional considerations for COVID-19.

Public Health England

Guide to donning and doffing standard Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for health and social care settings

Donning or putting on PPE
Before putting on the PPE, perform hand hygiene. Use alcohol handrub or gel or soap and water. Make sure you are protected and are not wearing any jewellery, bracelets, watches or stained rings.

- Put on your gloves. If you are wearing nitrile gloves, make sure they are not torn and are the right size. If you are wearing disposable gloves, make sure they are not torn and are the right size.
- Put on your eye protection. If you are wearing goggles, make sure they are not fogged and are the right size. If you are wearing a face shield, make sure it is clean and is the right size.
- Put on your mask. If you are wearing a surgical mask, make sure it is clean and is the right size. If you are wearing a respirator, make sure it is clean and is the right size.

Doffing or taking off PPE
Surgical masks are single session use, gloves and aprons should be changed between patients.

- Remove gloves, grasp the outside of the cuff of the glove and peel off, holding the glove in the closed hand, insert the finger underneath and peel off second glove.
- Perform hand hygiene using alcohol hand gel or rub, or soap and water.
- Strip or flatten apron ties the neck and allow to fall forward.
- Strip waste ties and fold apron to one third, not handling the outside as it is contaminated, and put into clinical waste.
- Remove eye protection. If you are wearing goggles, make sure they are not fogged and are the right size. If you are wearing a face shield, make sure it is clean and is the right size.
- Remove surgical mask. If you are wearing a surgical mask, make sure it is clean and is the right size. If you are wearing a respirator, make sure it is clean and is the right size.

Please refer to the PPE standard PPE video in the COVID-19 guidance collection: www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures. If you require the PPE for aerosol-generating procedures (AGPs) please visit: www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-aerosol-generating-procedures.

Guidance on donning and doffing standard Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has also been updated on 03/04/20 available to download at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures

For further information on the management and care of residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, please refer to 'Admission and care of residents during COVID-19 incident in a care home'.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-admission-and-care-of-people-in-care-homes>

Visit our website to view a range of resources for Care Homes www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk