

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Who needs PPE?

Public Health England have released information on the levels of PPE equipment recommended for primary, secondary, outpatient, community and social care settings. Please see the following pages for more information on the types of PPE required dependent on your care setting.

Where can I find stock Supplies in my area of PPE

Internet retailers, pharmacies, and supermarkets have all be trying to gain stock of PPE in order to help out those that require it. Some stores will have limited stock of PPE equipment whether that be disposable gloves or aprons.

Supplies have been difficult to find due to the high increase in demand globally so there are now three more options in the UK which we have listed below. It seems that supplies are now getting to the front line but are being managed to ensure those that need them the most are first in line.

Clipper Logistics (Ebay)

Clipper Logistics has been appointed to provide services to establish a new supply chain for NHS personal protective equipment (PPE) products, and is delivering to NHS Hospital Trusts and other healthcare providers across the UK.

The company was able to rapidly mobilise its warehousing and fulfilment operations after engaging with the NHS, and deliveries have now started.

The new eBay NHS Portal to supply PPE to non-acute health providers will provide primary care and social care providers with access to PPE for free at the point of order from NHS Supply Chain. 42,000 pieces of PPE have already been delivered in the pilot phase.

Local resilience forum

A Local Resilience Forum is a multi-agency forum formed in a police area of the United Kingdom by key emergency responders and specific supporting agencies.

This network is set up across the UK to get supplies of equipment into the community. There is a web page where you can find your local forum and make contact.

Listed by area

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-resilience-forums-contact-details>

NHS Disruption Line NSDR National Supply Disruption Response (NSDR)

Now opened out to direct employers and their staff but some people are being told on the phone that it isn't for them as the information takes a long while to cascade to the phone operators. This phone line is busy so expect high wait times

The National Supply Disruption line

Tel: 0800 915 9964

Email: supplydisruptionservice@nhsbsa.nhs.uk



Additional considerations, in addition to standard infection prevention and control precautions, where there is sustained transmission of COVID-19, taking into account individual risk assessment for this new and emerging pathogen, NHS and independent sector

Setting	Context	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Disposable fluid-repellent coverall/gown	Surgical mask	Fluid-resistant (Type IIR) surgical mask	Filtering face piece respirator	Eye/face protection ¹
Any setting	Direct patient/resident care assessing an individual that is not currently a possible or confirmed case ² (within 2 metres)	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✓ risk assess sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✓ risk assess sessional use ^{4,5}
Any setting	Performing an aerosol generating procedure ⁶ on an individual that is not currently a possible or confirmed case ^{2,7}	✓ single use ³	✗	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✓ single use ³	✓ single use ³
Any setting	Patient transport service driver conveying any individual to essential healthcare appointment, that is not currently a possible or confirmed case in vehicle without a bulkhead, no direct patient care and within 2 metres	✗	✗	✗	✓ single use ³	✗	✗	✗

1. This may be single or reusable face/eye protection/full face visor or goggles.

2. A case is any individual meeting case definition for a possible or confirmed case: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases/investigation-and-initial-clinical-management-of-possible-cases-of-wuhan-novel-coronavirus-wn-cov-infection>

3. Single use refers to disposal of PPE or decontamination of reusable items e.g. eye protection or respirator, after each patient and/or following completion of a procedure, task, or session; dispose or decontaminate reusable items after each patient contact as per Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs).

4. Risk assess refers to utilising PPE when there is an anticipated/likely risk of contamination with splashes, droplets of blood or body fluids. Where staff consider there is a risk to themselves or the individuals they are caring for they should wear a fluid repellent surgical mask with or without eye protection as determined by the individual staff member for the care episode/single session.

5. A single session refers to a period of time where a health care worker is undertaking duties in a specific care setting/exposure environment e.g. on a ward round; providing ongoing care for inpatients.

A session ends when the health care worker leaves the care setting/exposure environment. Sessional use should always be risk assessed and consider the risk of infection to and from patients, residents and health and care workers where COVID-19 is circulating in the community and hospitals. PPE should be disposed of after each session or earlier if damaged, soiled, or uncomfortable.

6. The list of aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) is included in section 8.1 at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe. (Note APGs are undergoing a further review at present)

7. Ambulance staff conveying patients are not required to change or upgrade PPE for the purposes of patient handover.

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

Setting	Context	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Disposable fluid-repellent coverall/gown	Surgical mask	Fluid-resistant (Typer IIR) surgical mask	Filtering face piece respirator	Eye/face protection ¹
Any setting	Performing an aerosol generating procedure on ² a possible or confirmed case ³	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✗	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴
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(s) ³ (within 2 metres)	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}
	Working in reception/communal area with possible or confirmed case(s) ³ and unable to maintain 2 metres social distance ⁶	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓ sessional use ⁵	✗	✗
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 ^{3,7}	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✓ risk assess single or sessional use ^{4,5,8}
	Direct care or visit to any individuals in the extremely vulnerable group or where a member of the household is within the extremely vulnerable group undergoing shielding ⁹	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✗	✗
	Home birth where any member of the household is a possible or confirmed case ^{3,7}	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}
Community and social care, care home, mental health inpatients and other overnight care facilities e.g. learning disability, hospices, prison healthcare	Facility with possible or confirmed case(s) ³ – and direct resident care (within 2 metres)	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single use ⁴	✗	✗	✓ sessional use ⁵	✗	risk assess sessional use ^{5,8}
Any setting	Collection of nasopharyngeal swab(s)	✓ single use ⁴	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}	✗	✓ single or sessional use ^{4,5}

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3. A case is any individual meeting case definition for a possible or confirmed case: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases/investigation-and-initial-clinical-management-of-possible-cases-of-wuhan-novel-coronavirus-wn-cov-infection>

4. Single use refers to disposal of PPE or decontamination of reusable items e.g. eye protection or respirator, after each patient and/or following completion of a procedure, task, or session; dispose or decontaminate reusable items after each patient contact as per Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs).

5. A single session refers to a period of time where a health care worker is undertaking duties in a specific care setting/exposure environment e.g. on a ward round; providing ongoing care for inpatients. A session ends when the health care worker leaves the care setting/exposure environment. Sessional use should always be risk assessed and considered where there are high rates of hospital cases. PPE should be disposed of after each session or earlier if damaged, soiled, or uncomfortable.

6. Non clinical staff should maintain 2m social distancing, through marking out a controlled distance; sessional use should always be risk assessed and considered where there are high rates of community cases.

7. Initial risk assessment should take place by phone prior to entering the premises or at 2 metres social distance on entering; where the health or social care worker assesses that an individual is symptomatic with suspected/confirmed cases appropriate PPE should be put on prior to providing care.

8. Risk assessed use refers to utilising PPE when there is an anticipated/likely risk of contamination with splashes, droplets or blood or body fluids.

9. For explanation of shielding and definition of extremely vulnerable groups see guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>