

Core brief

Staff update on COVID-19

We are committed to ensuring that staff have the information you need to know what to do and how to respond to the current COVID-19 situation. We have received a number of enquires via our new dedicated email account staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk and thought it would be helpful to share information on these issues with all staff.

Information on PPE

Health Protection Scotland released a guidance document for health care workers on infection control measures including the use of personal protective equipment. [The document can be found here.](#)

A summary of this is as follows:

Any member of staff who has direct contact with a patient who is suspected or confirmed as being positive for COVID-19 should wear a standard fluid resistant surgical mask, disposable gloves and a disposable apron. Guidance for the donning and doffing of personal protective equipment can be found at: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/259098/ppe-poster-for-novel-coronavirus-amended-mar-20.pdf>

FFP3 masks are **only** required for staff who are undertaking aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) with a possible/confirmed COVID-19 patient [a list of these can be found here](#) and other non clinical staff who work in a high risk AGP hot spot e.g. ITU - working in a cohort area with possible/confirmed cases.

The Procurement Team have received a delivery of FFP3 masks and fit testing kits and these are being distributed today with further supplies being issued next week.

Further supplies of protective equipment are being distributed to Health Boards today for onward distribution to all GP Practices in Scotland. These will include: fluid resistant surgical face masks (FRSM), disposable gloves, disposable plastic aprons and eye protection. Each practice will receive its own supply. Deliveries will commence on 13 March (where possible) and continue 16 March onwards.

Self isolation

Health Protection Scotland has updated their guidance on self isolation. The latest update can be found at: <https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/>

This guidance has advised that anyone developing the symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough and/or high temperature should self isolate at home for 7 days. [Clear guidance on self isolation can be found here.](#)

Advice for Pregnant Workers

Pregnant workers should avoid providing direct clinical care with a patient who is suspected or confirmed as being positive for COVID-19. Pregnant workers can remain at work and should be allocated other patients or moved to another clinical area

Advice for Immunosuppressed workers

Members of staff who have a medical condition that results in their immune system being compromised should not provide direct clinical care with a patient who is suspected or confirmed as being positive for COVID-19. Immunocompromised staff can remain at work and should be allocated other patients or moved to another clinical area.

Resources

Colleagues have contacted the Infectious Diseases (ID) team at QEUH with various enquiries on clinical issues. In response to this, the ID team have produced COVID Frequently Asked Questions guidance which they are keen to share with all clinical staff. This has been published on the Coronavirus Information Hub, found on the front page of StaffNet, and will be updated as the situation changes and new information comes to hand.

We have also created dedicated web pages www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19 on the NHSGGC website which will continue to be updated regularly. This online resource includes specific updates for GPs, HR guidance for staff and a series of frequently asked questions which will be updated regularly.

And finally, as a reminder, a new email account has also been set up to answer any specific queries on COVID-19. If you have a specific query you can email us at staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk and we will arrange to respond to your questions.



Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check