

It is important for healthcare workers to adhere to the guidance provided nationally regarding Standard IP&C precautions. Primary Care requires level 1 PPE for non-aerosol generating procedures. Adaptation of the guidance puts staff at risk of self-contamination.

Key IP&C principles

1. Effective Hand Hygiene at the appropriate times
2. Maintain patient distance and limit exposure as able
3. All staff and patients to practice good respiratory etiquette
4. Correct donning and doffing of PPE
5. Do not touch your face when in PPE
6. Effective decontamination of environment and equipment
7. Appropriate disposal of waste

IP&C guidance can be found

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>

Effective Hand Hygiene to include forearms when exposed.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877530/Best_Practice_hand_wash.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877529/Best_Practice_hand_rub.pdf

The type of PPE required in Primary Care is Non-aerosol generating procedures. Eye protection can be either single use or re-usable and decontaminated between patients.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877599/T2_Recommended_PPE_for_primary_outpatient_and_community_care_by_setting_poster.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878056/PHE_COVID-19_visual_guide_poster_PPE.pdf

FAQ available here

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878131/Frequently_asked_questions_on_wearing_PPE_v1.pdf

It is crucial that PPE donning and doffing of PPE protocols are adhered to, including hand decontamination at key points. Suggest posters on the wall as a reminder at the positions where donning and doffing takes place.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875211/Putting_on_PPE_for_non-aerosol_generating_procedures_quick_guide.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875212/Taking_off_PPE_for_non-aerosol_generating_procedures_quick_guide.pdf

Effective decontamination of the environment and equipment

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/reducing-the-risk-of-transmission-of-covid-19-in-the-hospital-setting#environmental-decontamination>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877533/Routine_decontamination_of_reusable_noninvasive_equipment.pdf

Waste disposal

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/reducing-the-risk-of-transmission-of-covid-19-in-the-hospital-setting#waste>