

20 May 2020

Dear Provider,

Infection control processes for performing Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs)

We have referred to national guidance and expert opinion to find out how best to prevent infection spread through aerosol generating procedures.

1. Ensure you have an up to date awareness of which procedures are included as [AGPs](#) – review the latest government guidance
2. Ensure you know what the appropriate AGP PPE is. [Please see latest government guidance](#). At time of writing, FFP3 respirator, gown, gloves, and full face visor PPE is needed for all AGPs (referred to below as “AGP PPE”), irrespective of whether the patient has any symptoms. You need to be fit tested to the exact model of mask that you have. If you are short stocked or have questions about fit testing, or other queries about PPE, please email people.commissioning@wolverhampton.gov.uk . Fit testing can be performed at New Cross’s Education Academy – please contact people.commissioning@wolverhampton.gov.uk for information on the Fit testing service for Wolverhampton.
3. Ensure you have a room to perform the AGP in, and that the number of people in the room is minimised, ideally just to the carer and the person receiving the AGP. In the case of a patient receiving Non Invasive Ventilation, the risk will be present to a carer when they enter the room of the patient, if the NIV machine is on.*
4. Don PPE – ensure you are familiar and confident in both [donning and doffing PPE](#).
5. Open the window in the room, with the patient in the room to increase air flow during the AGP.
6. Perform the AGP. Every person in the room except the resident must be wearing AGP level PPE.
7. Leave room, doff PPE. If in a client’s home, follow [guidance for disposal of PPE and waste in domiciliary care](#). If you are working in a special school, follow advice for disposal of waste from your clinical team. In a nursing or residential setting, follow [guidance](#) for PPE disposal in a care home. Wash hands
8. Reusable visors may be cleaned in accordance with [local](#) or [government guidance](#). If single use, dispose of the visor.

9. Once AGP finished, wait a minimum of 20 minutes, with an open window, but up to an hour if possible (NB ensure resident is warmly covered and comfortable at all times), before cleaning all horizontal and frequently touched surfaces. ** If anyone enters before 20 minutes has passed, they must be wearing AGP level PPE.

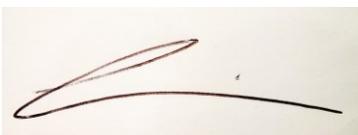
** If you are spending a long time with a patient (eg. a whole shift until your break) with AGPs in process (eg. NIV patients or a patient with repeated mouth or tracheostomy suctioning needs) then you may consider wearing PPE for longer periods (this would be equivalent to working a shift in an intensive care unit in terms of PPE sessional use – please see guidance for this – “Working in a higher risk acute care area” [here](#)). The guidance currently suggests that gowns can be worn for longer periods, as may FFP3 masks and eye protection. An apron must be worn over the gown if seeing more than one patient, and this must be changed between patients, as must gloves. Please note the usual rules about when your staff may need to change masks still apply (eg. needing to drink or eat, mask gets uncomfortable or dirty etc). Do not re-use masks or touch mask on the outside. Please refer to general guidance on [sessional PPE use](#).*

***Cleaning horizontal and frequently touched surfaces: After cleaning with **neutral detergent**, a **chlorine-based disinfectant** should be used, in the form of a solution at a minimum strength of 1,000ppm available chlorine. If an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation, the local infection prevention and control team (IPCT) should be consulted on this to ensure that this is effective against enveloped viruses.*

Our Infection Prevention Team in Wolverhampton also recommends additional options, which can be used instead of the neutral detergent/disinfectant cleaning option above:

- *“Wipe” products may be used alone, including any of the following: Chlorex wipe (which has 5000 ppm available chlorine), Clinell universal wipe (Green), Medipal 3in1 wipe, Optim 1 one-step cleaner and disinfectant, or a Chlorine solution of 1 in 1000 ppm.*
- *Liquid “all in one” products include Actichlor Plus, and So Chlor DST.*

Yours sincerely,



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City of Wolverhampton Council
Insert Address and Postcode Here

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