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## **BMJ Open: Triaging of respiratory protective equipment on the assumed risk of SARS-CoV-2 aerosol exposure in patient-facing healthcare workers delivering secondary care: a rapid review**

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/10/e040321>

### **Conclusions**

There is a paucity of evidence on the comparison of facemasks and respirators specific to SARS-CoV-2, and poor-quality evidence in other contexts. The use of surrogates results in extrapolation of non-SARS-CoV-2 specific data to guide UK Government PPE guidance. The appropriateness of this is unknown given the uncertainty over the transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

This means that the evidence base for UK Government PPE guidelines is not based on SARS-CoV-2 and requires generalisation from low-quality evidence of other pathogens/particles. There is a paucity of high-quality evidence regarding the efficacy of RPE specific to SARS-CoV-2. UK Government PPE guidelines are underpinned by the assumption of droplet transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

These factors suggest that the triaging of filtering face piece class 3 respirators might increase the risk of COVID-19 faced by some.



## **NHS Providers: Workforce flexibility in the NHS: Utilising COVID-19 innovations**

<https://nhsproviders.org/resource-library/briefings/workforce-flexibility-in-the-nhs-utilising-covid-19-innovations>

This briefing focuses on NHS workforce flexibilities and innovations which were accelerated during the first peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in England.

It has been directly informed by trust leaders, drawn from the conclusions of a roundtable discussion that we held in July, which focused on changes to workforce management.

The briefing explores and makes recommendations on six key areas of change:

- staff wellbeing
- flexibility in staff deployment and roles
- cross-organisational working and regulation
- technology
- making use of new roles
- funding



Public Health  
England

## **Public Health England: Guidance - Antibiotic awareness: toolkit for healthcare professionals in England**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-antibiotic-awareness-day-resources-toolkit-for-healthcare-professionals-in-england>

Updated 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Added Resources toolkit for healthcare professionals in England in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Public Health England: Guidance - COVID-19: infection prevention and control (IPC)**

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

Updated 20th Oct. Added COVID-19: infection prevention and control dental appendix.



## **Kidney Care UK: Out of sight, out of mind; the continuing impact of COVID-19 on people living with kidney disease**

<https://www.kidneycareuk.org/news-and-campaigns/news/thousands-kidney-patients-need-more-support/>

This report was compiled from 860 responses to an online survey which was open from 28 August to 21 September 2020. The report shows that the majority of kidney patients have been expected to return to work once shielding ended and the furlough scheme ends.



## **ICNARC: Report on COVID-19 in critical care: England, Wales and Northern Ireland**

<https://www.icnarc.org/DataServices/Attachments/Download/8fee8e2a-d50f-eb11-912b-00505601089b>

This report presents analyses of data on patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 reported to the Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC) up to 4pm on 15 October 2020 from critical care units participating in the Case Mix Programme.

Due to the increasing number of recent admissions, data are reported separately for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 at or after the start of critical care:

- admitted from 1 September 2020 to date; and
- admitted up to 31 August 2020

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