

PPE Guidance

DID YOU KNOW? GOOD MEDICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

GMC's "Good Medical Practice" (GMP) requires that "you must not deny treatment to patients because their medical condition may put you at risk. If a patient poses a risk to your health or safety, you should take all available steps to minimise the risk before providing treatment or making other suitable alternative arrangements to providing treatment."

DID YOU KNOW? GMC CORONAVIRUS ADVICE

GMC have stated that "employers & contracting bodies should take all necessary steps to make sure staff are suitably equipped."

"If suitable equipment isn't immediately available, difficult decisions may need to be made quickly about the safest and best course of action, taking account of clinical guidance."



"Doctors should work with colleagues to provide the safest care possible in the circumstances. Keep a record of your decisions and how you handled your safety concerns."

"Factors to consider:

1. Whether treatment can be delayed or provided differently
2. Whether additional steps can be taken to minimise the risk of transmission
3. Whether any doctors are at a higher risk from infection than other colleagues
4. What course of action is likely to result in the least harm in the circumstances."

DID YOU KNOW? BMA COVID-19 PPE ADVICE FOR DOCTORS

The BMA have said if you "reasonably believe" that your PPE is "inadequate", you need to "raise this urgently with your managers." Your "managers should carry out a risk assessment and find alternative ways of providing the care and treatment."

The BMA say there are "limits to the risks you can be expected to expose yourself to" and you are "not under a binding obligation to provide high-risk services where your employer does not provide appropriate safety and protection."

The guidance explains that you "can refuse to treat patients if your PPE is inadequate, you are at high risk of infection and there is no other way of delivering the care."

The BMA have set out guidance for those who wear a beard for religious reasons. The advice is that you should ask if alternative PPE can be made available to you, such as a PAPR instead of a FFP3. If that is not possible, you should ask if you can be exempt from tasks requiring this level of PPE

The BMA have concerns that chest compressions as part of CPR, are not classified as an Aerosol Generating Procedure according to Public Health England Guidance.

Guidance from the Resuscitation Council UK is clear – chest compressions require full PPE.