

Core brief

Daily COVID-19 update (17 April 2020, 5.40pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Face fit testing – military assistance
- Update on PPE guidance
- Daniel Carter, Consultant in Public Health Medicine video
- Critical care communication chart

Face fit testing – military assistance

Our health and safety teams are on site to assist with the mask fit programme for those staff who are required to wear a FFP3 mask.

The army have offered some assistance with this programme so you may see some military uniforms on site as the team are being joined by army instructors who normally teach and test soldiers on how to wear their respirators and PPE and test individual kit for fit and check whether it is working properly.

They have spent the last couple of days setting up to work alongside our staff.- starting tomorrow - making sure that the PPE is correct and is fit for purpose and that NHSGGC staff are getting full protection when they go to work

The two teams will be working together across all sites to deliver the programme.

Update on PPE guidance

The four UK Nations have developed guidance for infection prevention and control in healthcare settings for COVID-19. This guidance is constantly being reviewed and updated based on emerging scientific evidence and the numbers of people in the UK affected by this worldwide pandemic.

Recent guidance recommended local risk assessment on whether PPE should be worn in individual clinical situations.

As a precautionary measure and in response to growing numbers of cases in hospital and the community NHSGGC are now advising staff to wear appropriate PPE as per the guidance in every interaction with patients and clients. This should standardise our approach and provide additional reassurance to staff in this extraordinary time. This change will apply to adult patients only.

The number of children with COVID-19 is still very low and the Royal Hospital for Children have their own guidance in place which is under constant review.

Video message from Consultant in Public Health Medicine

Daniel Carter, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, has prepared a helpful short video which we would encourage all community health and social care staff to watch. [Click here to watch the video.](#)

Links to websites that are mentioned in this video are:

NHSGGC website: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/your-health/health-issues/covid-19-coronavirus/for-nhsggc-staff>

Health Protection Scotland guidance: <https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/covid-19/>

NHS Inform advice: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19>

Critical care communication chart

Being able to communicate with someone quickly and clearly when they are in a health emergency is vital to saving lives. For some patients who have no voice or have a cognitive impairment, communication support is vital.

A new critical care communication chart is now available to help staff communicate with patients who cannot verbalise their needs easily. [To view the resource, click here.](#)

To order this resource, produced in line with infection control standards, contact [Medical Illustration Services at \[medillgri@ggc.scot.nhs.uk\]\(mailto:medillgri@ggc.scot.nhs.uk\)](#). Please confirm the quantity required alongside your full contact details. This is a free resource available to all staff.

Note: for patients who cannot speak English and speak another language, or for those who are Deaf, please use the appropriate interpreting support.

Link for telephone interpreting: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/staff-banks/interpreting-services/telephone-interpreting/>

Link for BSL interpreting: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/staff-banks/interpreting-services/british-sign-language/>

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS.](#)

