

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## Why wear PPE?

PPE is intended to be worn or held by a person at work and which protects them against one or more risks to their health or safety, and any addition or accessory designed to meet that objective ( PPE Regulations 1992).

PPE should be worn based on assessment of the task to be undertaken.

## Correct order for putting on full PPE:

- **APRON**
- **MASK**
- **EYE PROTECTION**
- **GLOVES**

## Correct removal of PPE in the following order:

- **GLOVES**
- **APRON**
- **EYE PROTECTION**
- **MASK**

**APRONS** should be worn for all aerosol generated procedures in the surgery and for decontamination processes.

PPE is part of everyday healthcare and it is vital that **ALL** staff assess the wearing of appropriate PPE to minimise the risks of cross-contamination .

## USE SAFE WORK PRACTICES TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND LIMIT THE SPREAD OF INFECTION

**Keep hands away from face**  
**Limit surfaces touched in the patient environment**  
**Change gloves if they become torn or heavily contaminated**  
**Regularly perform hand hygiene**  
**Always clean hands after removing gloves**

## Disposal of PPE

It is vital that PPE is disposed of correctly:

PPE from non-infectious patients can be disposed of in “offensive” waste (yellow and black striped bags) or clinical waste (orange/yellow bags) streams.

PPE from patients who are known to be infectious must go into the clinical waste stream (orange/yellow bags), usually for incineration. This waste may be autoclaved and sent for alternative treatment like shredding and landfill. Yellow waste bags may also be used.



All PPE used should be CE marked with this European icon.

Additional advice/support is available contact Karen Jones on 01928 593476 or the Infection Control Team on 01925 867707.