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Review Sheet		
Last Reviewed 16 Dec '22	Last Amended 16 Dec '22	Next Planned Review in 12 months, or sooner as required.
Business impact	 <p>HIGH IMPACT</p> <p>These changes require action as soon as possible.</p>	
Reason for this review	Scheduled review	
Were changes made?	Yes	
Summary:	This policy will support staff in the use of PPE. It has been updated following the update to the 'COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care' guidance, links to which can be found in the policy. Updates have been made throughout the policy, in particular, to sections 3.1, 4.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.15 and 5.16. All other references and underpinning knowledge links have also been updated to ensure they remain up to date.	
Relevant legislation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022 • The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 • Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009 • Care Quality Commission (Registration and Membership) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 • Civil Contingencies Act 2004 • Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 • The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 • The Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014 • Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Registration and Regulated Activities) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 • Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 • Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 • Medical Act 1983 • The Medical Devices Regulations 2002 • The Medical Devices (Amendment) Regulations 2012 • The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 • The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2002 • Health and Social Care (Safety and Quality) Act 2015 • Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR) • Coronavirus Act 2020 • The Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002 	

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<p>Underpinning knowledge - What have we used to ensure that the policy is current:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author: GOV.UK, (2022), <i>PPE guide for non-aerosol generating procedures</i>. [Online] Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ppe-guide-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=34c0656e-b845-40d4-92d3-008933146d9b&utm_content=immediately [Accessed: 16/12/2022] • Author: Department of Health, (2022), <i>The Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance</i>. [Online] Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-health-and-social-care-act-2008-code-of-practice-on-the-prevention-and-control-of-infections-and-related-guidance [Accessed: 16/12/2022] • Author: Department of Health and Social Care, (2020), <i>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Strategy - Stabilise and build resilience</i>. [Online] Available from: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/88444/ppe_strategy.pdf [Accessed: 16/12/2022] • Author: UK Government, (2022), <i>Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement</i>. [Online] Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-covid-19-supplement [Accessed: 16/12/2022] • Author: Department of Health and Social Care, (2022), <i>COVID-19: information and advice for health and care professionals</i>. [Online] Available from: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-information-and-advice-for-health-and-care-professionals [Accessed: 16/12/2022] • Author: UKHSA, (2022), <i>People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19</i>. [Online] Available from: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19 [Accessed: 16/12/2022]
<p>Suggested action:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage sharing the policy through the use of the QCS App
<p>Equality Impact Assessment:</p>	<p>QCS have undertaken an equality analysis during the review of this policy. This statement is a written record that demonstrates that we have shown due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with respect to the characteristics protected by equality law.</p>

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1. Purpose

1.1 To describe the arrangements in place at Master Care Ltd for the management of provision and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

1.2 To outline the approach taken by Master Care Ltd to ensure the safety of those affected by its services and activities.

Master Care Ltd will observe the requirements of all relevant procedures and guidance from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), or regional organisations, in relation to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

1.3 To support Master Care Ltd in meeting the following Key Lines of Enquiry:

Key Question	Key Lines of Enquiry
EFFECTIVE	E5: How are people supported to live healthier lives, have access to healthcare services and receive ongoing healthcare support?
RESPONSIVE	R1: How do people receive personalised care that is responsive to their needs?
SAFE	S5: How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?
WELL-LED	W2: Does the governance framework ensure that responsibilities are clear and that quality performance, risks and regulatory requirements are understood and managed?

1.4 To meet the legal requirements of the regulated activities that {Master Care Ltd} is registered to provide:

- | The Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022
- | The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992
- | Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009
- | Care Quality Commission (Registration and Membership) (Amendment) Regulations 2012
- | Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- | Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
- | The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005
- | The Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014
- | Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Registration and Regulated Activities) (Amendment) Regulations 2015
- | Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- | Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- | Medical Act 1983
- | The Medical Devices Regulations 2002
- | The Medical Devices (Amendment) Regulations 2012
- | The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992
- | The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2002
- | Health and Social Care (Safety and Quality) Act 2015
- | Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
- | Coronavirus Act 2020
- | The Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002

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2. Scope

2.1 The following roles may be affected by this policy:

- | All staff

2.2 The following Service Users may be affected by this policy:

- | Service Users

2.3 The following stakeholders may be affected by this policy:

- | Family
- | Advocates
- | Representatives



3. Objectives

3.1 To outline the arrangements and requirements for the provision of safe and effective Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at Master Care Ltd.

To describe the scenarios in which PPE is required to be worn in order to prevent or mitigate injury risk, control and prevent infection, avoid the spread of disease and to keep staff members at Master Care Ltd safe from harm.

Master Care Ltd will assess the risks to all those affected by its activities and implement effective risk control measures, including the use of PPE to minimise risk of infection at work in accordance with current [guidance](#) from the Department of Health and Social Care.

3.2 Where, through completion of task or activity risk assessment, a need for staff at Master Care Ltd to use any form of PPE is identified, they are fully trained in its safe and effective application.

PPE will be deployed where adequate control of risk cannot be achieved or where required in accordance with relevant guidance to prevent or mitigate injury risk, to avoid infection and the spread of disease and to protect the health of the staff members at Master Care Ltd.

3.3 Supplies of all appropriate types of PPE will be available at Master Care Ltd and maintained in optimum condition, ready for use in order to control infection, prevent the spread of disease, prevent or mitigate injury risk and to minimise the risk of all workers and others at Master Care Ltd being exposed to the risk of infection.



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4. Policy

4.1 At all times, Master Care Ltd will assess the risks to the health, safety and welfare of all affected by its services and implement suitable control measures to reduce the risk of harm. These control measures will include, where identified as necessary, the provision and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Master Care Ltd will ensure that the most up-to-date Department of Health and Social Care guidance on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Infection Control is understood and followed by all working on its behalf.

4.2 Master Care Ltd will ensure that the risk assessment process is used to identify hazards and minimise risks. The reduction of risk may identify the need for the use of PPE, and where used for the purposes of infection control, it will be supported by guidance produced by the DHSC.

4.3 All workers at Master Care Ltd will be provided with appropriate PPE by Master Care Ltd. Those provided with PPE will be trained in:

- | How to use PPE, including the approved process for donning, removing and disposing of used PPE
- | When to use individual items of PPE
- | When to replace any PPE
- | The limitations of any PPE being used
- | How to report issues regarding the quality, quantity or effectiveness of PPE supplied

4.4 Master Care Ltd has an Infection Prevention and Control Lead who is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of PPE usage at Master Care Ltd.

This person will regularly report to any:

- | Concerns with the quality of PPE provided for the purposes of infection prevention and control
- | Concerns regarding stock levels, supply and range of PPE provided for the purposes of infection prevention and control
- | Findings of audits and reports on the use of PPE provided for the purposes of infection prevention and control
- | Issues raised by staff regarding the use of PPE provided for the purposes of infection prevention and control
- | Failure of staff to adhere to the PPE policy

4.5 Master Care Ltd fulfils its duties under the recently amended Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 through full implementation of the following procedure.



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5. Procedure

5.1 National and Local Guidance

The procedure detailed in the policy reflects current national guidance. However, Master Care Ltd will be aware of, and follow, relevant regional or local guidelines for the provision and correct usage of all PPE.

5.2 All PPE Provided for Use by Master Care Ltd is:

- | Compliant with the relevant BS/EN standards (European technical standards as adopted in the UK)
- | Stored to prevent contamination in a clean/dry area until required for use (expiry dates must be adhered to)
- | Disposed of after use correctly, into the correct waste stream
- | Single use only, unless specified otherwise by the manufacturer
- | Changed immediately after each contact with a Service User and/or following each procedure or task
- | Used in line with current [Infection Control Guidance](#)

5.3 Effectiveness of PPE

PPE on its own will not prevent the spread of infection and is only effective when combined with:

- | Thorough hand hygiene. Staff must perform hand hygiene immediately before every episode of care and after any activity or contact that potentially results in their hands becoming contaminated. This includes before putting on (donning) and after the removal (doffing) of personal protective equipment (PPE), equipment decontamination and waste handling
- | Respiratory hygiene (“catch it, bin it, kill it”)
- | Being aware of the importance of avoiding touching your face with your hands
- | Following standard infection prevention and control precautions
- | Using the correct technique for putting on and taking off PPE
- | Ensuring PPE is changed between Care tasks, where required, for example between personal care and nutritional support tasks
- | The safe disposal of used PPE

5.4 When and What PPE Must be Worn

The care and health needs of a Service User and the vulnerabilities of individual staff are risk assessed by Master Care Ltd. The specific requirement for the type of PPE and application of PPE needed is informed by dynamic risk assessments undertaken at the point of service provision.

The risk assessment is based on the following:

- | Is the member of staff likely to be within two metres of the Service User and carrying out direct personal care or domestic duties?
- | Is the member of staff more than two metres from a Service User, undertaking domestic duties and not delivering personal care?

The DHSC has also produced PPE use [guidance](#) that relates to a number of infection status and task scenarios which will be encountered by Master Care Ltd, as per sections 5.5 and 5.6 of this policy.

Routine wearing of face masks at all times in care settings, including in a Service User's home, is no longer required but is recommended in a number of circumstances to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19. These include:

- | If a Service User is known or suspected to have COVID-19 (recommended Type IIR fluid-repellent surgical mask)
- | If Care Workers are a household or overnight contact of someone who has had a positive test result for COVID-19

Master Care Ltd will determine the risks on an individual basis for each Service User and will also consider the preferences of both the Service User and Care Worker in relation to the wearing of masks over and above those recommended in guidance.

5.5 COVID-19 PPE Recommendations when Caring for Persons not Suspected or Confirmed as Having COVID-19

[DHSC guidance](#) describes the recommended PPE for a range of tasks when they are carried out on persons not suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19.

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PPE of the type recommended by the DHSC will be required in each of the following situations and Master Care Ltd will check [DHSC guidance](#) for specific types and application:

- | Social contact with clients, staff and visitors
- | Care or tasks involving likely contact with blood or bodily fluids
- | Tasks not involving contact with blood or bodily fluids
- | General cleaning with hazardous products
- | Performing aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) on persons not suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19 or other airborne, droplet transmissible infections

When carrying out personal care (or other tasks involving likely contact with blood or body fluids) for someone who is not suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, a risk assessment should be completed to ascertain if a type IIR mask and eye protection should be worn. Gloves and an apron are recommended in this scenario.

Where general cleaning takes place with hazardous products, a risk assessment should be undertaken to ascertain if a type IIR mask is required. Eye protection, gloves and aprons should be risk assessed and worn where recommended by the manufacturer of the cleaning product.

When undertaking an AGP on a person who is not suspected of having, or is confirmed as having, COVID-19 or another infection spread by the airborne or droplet route, a type IIR mask should be used alongside eye protection, gloves and an apron.

5.6 COVID-19 PPE Recommendations when Caring for Persons Suspected or Confirmed as Having COVID-19

[DHSC Guidance](#) describes the recommended PPE for a range of tasks when carried out on persons suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19.

PPE of the type recommended by the DHSC will be required in each of the following situations and Master Care Ltd will check [DHSC guidance](#) for specific types and application:

- | Giving personal care
- | General cleaning in a room with confirmed or suspected cases (even if more than 2 metres apart)
- | Undertaking an AGP
- | Carrying out any other tasks within 2 metres of a suspected or confirmed case

Staff at Master Care Ltd will wear a type IIR mask, eye protection, apron and gloves when giving personal care to someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, or when cleaning their room.

When undertaking other tasks within 2 metres of someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, a type IIR mask and eye protection will be worn. An apron and gloves will be worn in the event that it is risk assessed by Master Care Ltd that contact with blood or body fluids is likely.

When undertaking an AGP on a person who is suspected of having or is confirmed as having COVID-19 or another infection spread by the airborne or droplet route, a full-face visor (which covers the eyes, nose and mouth area) is needed if the FFP3 mask is not fluid resistant. Eye protection, gloves and an apron should also be worn.

5.7 Risk Assessment Before Each Visit

Attempts will be made, where appropriate, to ascertain whether a Service User meets the case definition for a possible or confirmed case of COVID-19 before the care episode. Service Users who are well but who have the following symptoms, must follow [guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19](#).

- | **A new continuous cough and/or**
- | **A high temperature**
- | **A loss or change in normal sense of smell or taste**
- | **Shortness of breath**
- | **Feeling tired or exhausted**
- | **An aching body**
- | **A headache**
- | **A sore throat**
- | **A blocked or runny nose**
- | **Loss of appetite**

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- | **Diarrhoea**
- | **Feeling sick or being sick**

Master Care Ltd will monitor its Service Users for symptoms and Care Workers will inform their line manager if any changes occur. Those Service Users with symptoms will be assessed based on their needs to decide if it is appropriate to visit them at the end of a Care Worker's list rather than in between other Service Users.

Master Care Ltd must ensure that staff are aware that Service Users may not present with the same symptoms as someone who is young and healthy.

PPE guidance must be followed as stated in [COVID-19 Supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care.](#)

5.8 Visits Outside of the Service User's Home

Whether Master Care Ltd is providing Care within the Service User's home or supporting outside of the home, for example, a visit to a family member, a walk in the park or a visit to the shops or a cafe, the same principles apply. Before an outing with the Service User, consider if the activities include the provision of direct personal care, for example, assisting the Service User with toileting, and take the appropriate PPE, as outlined in section 5.5 of this policy.

Where there is occasional physical support, for example, helping the Service User out of a chair, or assisting with everyday tasks, such as shopping, these do not require gloves and aprons. There is a no longer a legal requirement to wear face coverings in indoor settings or on public transport. However, the Government recommends that people continue to wear face coverings:

- | If the person being cared for is known or suspected to have COVID-19 (recommended Type IIR fluid-repellent surgical mask)
- | If the member of staff is a household or overnight contact of someone who has had a positive test result for COVID-19

Service Users receiving support from Master Care Ltd are also likely to be more vulnerable and to experience worse outcomes in relation to COVID-19 than the general population, so it is important that the Care Workers recognise this.

Where the Care Worker feels there are situations they are not clear about in relation to PPE, they must speak to . If the Care Worker still feels that, after raising a concern, they are being asked to work in an unsafe way, they can refer to the Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure at Master Care Ltd for further information.

5.9 Action Required Before Using PPE

Follow [Guidance](#) on donning (putting on) PPE. Before PPE is donned:

- | Perform hand hygiene
- | Ensure the staff member is hydrated
- | Tie hair back
- | Remove jewellery
- | Check PPE in the correct size is available

PPE must be donned and doffed at least two metres away from the Service User and anyone in the household who may have a cough. This also includes when replacing PPE. The best place to do this in the Service User's home must be agreed, i.e. just before or just after entering the Service User's home or in a separate room.

Guidance on removing (doffing) PPE can be read [here](#).

5.10 PPE for Live-in Care Workers

Where Master Care Ltd is providing live-in Care to a Service User, risk assessments must be completed to determine which PPE should be worn and when.

Care Workers who live with a Service User for long periods of time are considered part of the household and do not need to wear PPE when doing domestic duties, unless the Service User being supported (or a member of their household) tests positive for COVID-19 or develops respiratory symptoms such as coughing or sneezing.

Live-in Care Workers should ensure the correct PPE is worn for the Care being provided; for example, gloves and an apron should be worn if the Care Worker is handling soiled linen or may come into contact with body fluids such as urine, faeces or blood.

If the Service User being supported develops respiratory symptoms, tests positive for COVID-19, or is self-

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isolating, the live-in Care Worker will follow the PPE recommendations outlined in sections 5.5 and 5.6 of this policy, according to the work they are doing.

If someone in the household develops symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive, the Care Worker must also follow the [guidance for people with a respiratory infection including COVID-19](#).

5.11 Service Users with Behaviours that May Challenge

Where Master Care Ltd supports Service Users with behaviours that may challenge, such as those with learning disabilities or autism, [guidance](#) in relation to PPE must also be adhered to. The levels of PPE will depend upon the tasks being carried out, the risk, and how vulnerable the Service User may be. A robust risk assessment will be completed by Master Care Ltd for each Service User on an individual basis and must be regularly reviewed.

For some Service Users, PPE can affect their normal routine and Master Care Ltd will look at ways to ensure that PPE items do not appear frightening to them, whilst not altering them in anyway. Some examples of how this can be done include:

- | Greeting the Service User without a mask through a window before entering the space where you actually meet
- | Explain that by wearing the mask you are helping other people to stay safe and that the mask is now part of your regular working clothes or uniform
- | Wear disposable picture badges showing what you look like without a mask
- | Introduce masks by making them in an art session. This will be useful if Service Users need masks when going out. Have a choice of colours or fabric designs
- | Try to normalise the wearing of masks around the Service User's home; if there are soft toys around, perhaps provide masks for these
- | Play a game trying to guess what expression people are making behind masks
- | Use Makaton or British Sign Language (BSL) or possibly develop shared, non-verbal signals for the expressions usually read from faces
- | Develop a matching pairs game with pictures of people with and without masks
- | Praise people when they ask questions about the masks. Answer clearly and honestly using their preferred communication method
- | Consider graded exposure approaches with the aim of making the PPE acceptable
- | Wear transparent masks where these are available

Where it is decided by Master Care Ltd that PPE is not required to be used with a Service User, this must be under continual review and alternative solutions looked at.

5.12 COVID-19 - Safe ways of working

- | Staff will be trained on donning and doffing PPE. Videos are available for training (See 'Further Reading' section for links)
- | Staff will know what PPE they should wear and when they should be using it
- | Staff will have access to the PPE that protects them for the appropriate setting and context
- | Gloves are subject to single use and disposal after each Service User contact or in between tasks (such as when providing personal care and carrying out food preparation)
- | Aprons are subject to single use and disposal after each Service User contact or in between tasks
- | Fluid repellent surgical masks are subject to single use and must be disposed of at the end of each home care visit, where required
- | Eye protection can be single use or designed to be used more than once if decontaminated correctly between uses; where it is a reusable item, it must be used in line with the manufacturer's guidance
- | In domiciliary care, where there is regular personal care, staff must be bare below the elbows. Long sleeved gowns are not required
- | Hand hygiene should be practised and extended to exposed forearms, after removing any element of PPE
- | Staff should take regular breaks and rest periods
- | If staff feel unwell, they must not attend work and must contact Master Care Ltd 3 hours before they are

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due to work to inform Master Care Ltd that they are unable to attend their Service User

5.13 Reusable PPE

Whilst most PPE items are for once-only use, certain PPE items are manufactured to be reusable. This most commonly applies to eye/face protection items, i.e. goggles or visors. Reusable items should be clearly marked as such and identified in advance by Master Care Ltd.

Reusable PPE items may be used, provided that they are appropriately cleaned or stored between uses, according to the manufacturer's instructions or local infection control policy. will advise staff where this applies.

Reuse of gloves and aprons is not recommended in any circumstances. Face masks must be disposed of after single use. They cannot be cleaned and so are also not reusable.

5.14 Damaged PPE

All PPE items should be inspected before use and where any damage is found, a replacement must be sought. Staff must ensure that they have sufficient amounts of PPE available for each shift.

Gloves should be discarded and replaced in any of the following circumstances:

- ┆ If damaged (torn or punctured)

Aprons should be discarded and replaced in any of the following circumstances:

- ┆ If damaged (torn or punctured)

Face masks should be discarded and replaced in any of the following circumstances:

- ┆ If damaged
- ┆ If soiled (e.g. with secretions, body fluids)
- ┆ If damp
- ┆ If uncomfortable
- ┆ If difficult to breathe through

Eye protection should be discarded and replaced (or decontaminated if the item is reusable) in any of the following circumstances:

- ┆ If damaged
- ┆ If soiled (e.g. with secretions, body fluids)
- ┆ If uncomfortable

5.15 Disposing of PPE

Any waste PPE, including hazardous waste where there is no access to a hazardous waste stream, must be placed in a sealed bin liner before disposal and can be disposed of as normal domestic waste.

Further information on waste management can also be found in the [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care guidance](#).

Where staff wear a uniform or work clothes, these should be laundered in line with the Appearance Policy and Procedure at Master Care Ltd.

5.16 PPE Stock Levels

Master Care Ltd must maintain sufficient supplies of PPE for Care Workers to utilise. Master Care Ltd can refer to the [PPE portal: how to order COVID-19 personal protective equipment](#) guidance for information and a link to the PPE portal where free COVID-19 related PPE can be accessed.

Weekly order limits from the portal will be based on the size of the provider.



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6. Definitions

6.1 Intervention

- | Action taken to improve or stabilise a medical disorder

6.2 Aerosol Generating Procedures

- | The following procedures are examples of what are currently considered to be potentially infectious AGPs for COVID-19:
 - | Intubation, extubation and related procedures, for example, manual ventilation and open suctioning of the respiratory tract (including the upper respiratory tract)
 - | Tracheotomy or tracheostomy procedures (insertion or open suctioning or removal)
 - | Non-invasive ventilation (NIV); Bi-level Positive Airway Pressure Ventilation (BiPAP) and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Ventilation (CPAP)
 - | Induction of sputum (cough)
 - | High flow nasal oxygen (HFNO)

6.3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- | Personal protective equipment (PPE) refers to protective clothing, helmets, goggles or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury or infection. The hazards addressed by protective equipment include physical, electrical, heat, chemicals, biohazards and airborne particulate matter



Key Facts - Professionals

Professionals providing this service should be aware of the following:

- | The Infection Prevention and Control Lead at Master Care Ltd will check regularly that PPE is used. They will require a reason if it is not being used and this may lead to disciplinary action as it constitutes a serious risk to the staff member, the whole team at Master Care Ltd, to Service Users and, in the case of COVID-19, to the wider public
- | Employees must make proper use of PPE and report if it is faulty or unavailable
- | PPE must be properly looked after and stored when not in use
- | The Infection Prevention and Control Lead at Master Care Ltd will be responsible for ensuring that PPE is available, that there are sufficient supplies and that it is properly maintained, cleaned and kept in good condition if it is reusable
- | There is no need to wear two pairs of gloves at once with a Service User who has tested positive or who is suspected of having coronavirus
- | Where staff members are allergic to latex, alternative gloves must be available to avoid any contact with latex. Latex-free gloves must be used for treating Service Users who are allergic to latex and where this is a known allergy, it must appear in the allergy section of their Care Plan
- | A standard surgical mask will protect you and your Service User from virus that may be present in spittle. You will be clearly told where and when you should wear this mask and also when the Service User should wear one
- | Master Care Ltd has duties concerning the provision and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at work and what it needs to do to meet the requirements of the Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022
- | While every skill and care are taken to avoid contamination etc. PPE is needed to significantly reduce the risk of contamination, injury or infection to staff members and to Service Users in the preparation and delivery of care
- | Gloves are not a substitute for hand hygiene. Hands must be washed before and after putting on and taking off gloves

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Key Facts - People affected by the service

People affected by this service should be aware of the following:

- ┆ If member of staff needs to wear gloves, a gown or face mask, they will explain why they are wearing it
- ┆ PPE is special equipment that is worn to create a barrier between you and germs that reduces the chance of touching, being exposed to and spreading germs
- ┆ PPE helps prevent the spread of germs in healthcare settings and can protect you and the staff from infections
- ┆ If you know that you have an allergy to latex, you must inform Master Care Ltd and anywhere else where latex-containing gloves may be used, e.g. dentist or food outlet, so that you avoid contact with latex



Further Reading

As well as the information in the 'underpinning knowledge' section of the review sheet we recommend that you add to your understanding in this policy area by considering the following materials:

GOV.UK - Adult Social Care: Guidance:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/adult-social-care-guidance?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=2dcf43d6-3b2e-4c5b-9652-4e4a8fa5e3e9&utm_content=immediately

GOV.UK - COVID-19 PPE Guide for Unpaid Carers:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-ppe-guide-for-unpaid-carers?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=421c8d1e-4423-40ad-9817-b2f52a996f23&utm_content=immediately

GOV.UK - COVID-19 PPE Guide for Adult Social Care Services and Settings:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-ppe-guide-for-adult-social-care-services-and-settings?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=980f5df7-9df4-4515-b8be-941af74a7756&utm_content=immediately

NHS - National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/B0271-national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021.pdf?msclkid=9952c9ddaac711ecb02bbaa028fc3816>

NHS - National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021: Supporting Documents:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021-supporting-documents/>

Homecare Association - Guidance for the Social Care Sector on COVID-19:

<https://www.homecareassociation.org.uk/support/covid-19.html>

World Health Organisation - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) training: Online training:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>

World Health Organisation - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Advice for the Public: When and how to use masks:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/when-and-how-to-use-masks>

GOV.UK - Living Safely with Respiratory Infections, Including COVID-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19>

QCS - Monthly H&S Review: March 2022 - Personal Protective Equipment:

<https://www.qcs.co.uk/monthly-hs-review-march-22-ppe/>

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WARNING: Your System details are incomplete and so the content of this policy may not be customised to your organisation.



Outstanding Practice

To be 'outstanding' in this policy area you could provide evidence that:

- | The wide understanding of the policy is enabled by proactive use of the QCS App
- | There is a schedule for the type and level of PPE required for each clinical and operational activity which is reviewed on a regular basis
- | There is an up-to-date schedule of PPE held in stock with expiry dates for items of PPE which are not used on a regular basis
- | Staff are trained, they have regular updates on infection control and understand how to use PPE appropriately and safely



Forms

Currently there is no form attached to this policy.