



The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Safety Flash

December 2020

COVID-19

Appropriate PPE and Risk Assessment



Results from an RCEM survey revealed ethnic disparities in access to appropriate PPE.

- All staff must have access to appropriate PPE at all times. If you are concerned about the adequacy of PPE call the BMA PPE hotline.
- All doctors should have a risk assessment at their workplace, including those returning to the NHS and existing staff.
- This must take account of COVID-19 hazards and mitigation for them including the use of social distancing and PPE.
- If you are identified as being at high risk, your employer should take steps to mitigate the risk, as far as they are able.

Please find more guidance here:

[Government guidance—COVID-19: infection prevention and control](#)

[BMA Guidance COVID-19: risk assessment](#)

[RCEM Guidance COVID-19](#)

This Safety Flash was produced by RCEM's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee. With thanks to Dr Kamal Badmus.

For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see:

www.rcem.ac.uk/SafetyAlerts