

COVID-19: PPE Advice for providers of domiciliary care in Northern Ireland

The Department of Health have produced guidance specifically for Domiciliary Care (<https://tinyurl.com/rx623f9>).

1. Where an individual receiving care is suspected or a confirmed case of COVID-19

- Domiciliary Care workers should use personal protective equipment (PPE) when delivering close personal care i.e. within 1 metre of a person with symptoms of COVID-19 or a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Examples of close personal care may be assisting a person with washing and/or dressing or assisting with continence care.
- Disposable aprons, disposable gloves and **fluid shield masks** should be used in these situations. You do not need to be fit tested for a fluid shield mask.
- The use of eye protection should be risk assessed if there is a risk of splashing.

2. If the individual being cared for has no respiratory symptoms of COVID-19

- No additional personal protective equipment is required above and beyond normal good hygiene practices.
- For most patient activities, this will include the use of only **disposable gloves and disposable aprons**.

3. During this period it is important for all staff:

- Maintain good hand hygiene practices <https://vimeo.com/396666812>
- For coughs and sneezes, use a tissue – Catch it, Bin it, Kill it
- Try to limit any close and sustained contact with individuals for whom they are providing care.



Please continue to refer to online resources at <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus> for the most up to date information.