

UNIVERSAL USE OF EYE PROTECTION BY ALL STAFF

In light of the increased community transmission of COVID 19, from Monday 1st Feb 2021 the **Trust is recommending the UNIVERSAL USE OF EYE PROTECTION (VISORS) by ALL Health and Social Care staff when within 2 metres of ANY patients /clients in ANY setting, irrespective of the patients'/clients' COVID-19 status.**

It is recognised that use of eye protection may not be possible in every circumstance, therefore a risk assessment by staff and managers can be undertaken to determine whether it is safe to *omit* eye-protection. To maintain staff and patient safety and prevent confusion a consistent approach is required to the risk assessment of eye protection use.

Risk assessment

A decision not to wear a visor can be risk assessed on an individual basis, if the patient / client is

- NOT either suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19
- NOT undergoing an AGP (along with the additional required PPE)
- NOT coughing
- NOT located on a ward with an active COVID-19 outbreak
- **NO** risk of splash (regardless of the COVID status of the patient)

Eye protection MUST be worn in the following circumstances (risk assessment does not apply)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● within 2m of a patient who is either suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19● if there is a risk of droplets or splash (regardless of the COVID status of the patient) e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ if a patient is actively coughing or○ when carrying out a task where splash is anticipated● when undertaking an AGP (along with the additional required PPE)● In any area ward or department where there is an active outbreak