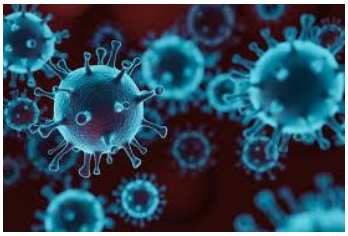
Health & Safety newsletter

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Swansea Bay University Health Board

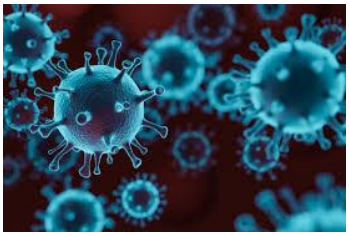
COVID-19 #3



WELCOME TO THE THIRD EDITION OF THE HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER



COVID-19



Coronavirus has been the major focus since March 2020, with the First Minister echoing Boris Johnson's statement on 23 March 2020, saying the Welsh Government now has to "introduce more, even tighter series of measures" described as **"unprecedented in peacetime"**.



This was a very **clear message** in that we should **stay at home** unless we are:-

- **going out to exercise once a day**, (alone or with members of our household),
- **shopping for essential items** (such as food or medicines but as infrequently as possible)
- **caring for or assisting a vulnerable person** in the community
- **travelling to work** (but only where this is absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home)

***NEW** HEALTH & SAFETY EMAIL ADDRESS*

We have introduced a new dedicated email address for all health and safety related queries, please direct queries to:

SBU.SwanseaBayHealthandSafety@wales.nhs.uk



Stay at Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives

Staff Safety – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Typical PPE items ordered through SB HQ Stores



8833



9332+



Long cuff gloves



Visors



FRSM (Type11R)



Aprons



Long sleeve gowns

PPE – Logistic Cell

With global challenges to source and secure PPE the Health Board set up a dedicated silver PPE cell to oversee arrangements, and supply issues for Swansea Bay HB Centralising all ordering through the logistics (PPE) cell, with storage facilities established at Health Board headquarters for receipt of all orders for onward distribution. All SDU's identified PPE leads, with local focal points agreed for storage and distribution. This quickly provided:

- Oversight arrangement
- Demand for PPE
- Supply & Distribution (Locally & Nationally)

In addition to national supplies a number of local suppliers were used to procure powered hoods, half masks to provide additional options for staff to the disposable FFP3 masks, with over 70 3M versaflow power packs, 200 hoods and 500 plus half masks with filters.

Generic emails for each SDU's and HQ stores:
SBU.HQStoresPPE@wales.nhs.uk
SBU.MorristonCOVID-19PPE@wales.nhs.uk
SBU.SingCOVID-19PPE@wales.nhs.uk
SBU.NPTHCovid-19PPE@wales.nhs.uk
SBU.MHCOVID-19PPE@wa;es.nhs.uk
SBU.PCCCOVID-19PPE@wales.nhs.uk



PPE – HQ Stores





With the many changes and challenges of managing PPE for SB the stores at HQ were quickly introduced, hiring portacabins and marquee to ensure sufficient stocks of PPE were maintained. The introduction of the stores at HQ Baglan enabled SB to hold at least 5 days of most lines of PPE, dependent on local and national availability. The next step is to further enhance the ability to build local stock to account for future COVID-19 surges, winter pressures (influenza) and Brexit, to this end SB has agreed to facilitate the stores moving to the Bay Filed Hospital in October 2020. This will enable the HB to build up supplies and provide resilience should supplies globally be less fluid.

Fit Testing

Since March 2020 a programme of fit testing has been rolled out. Staff providing the training include cascade trainers, redeployed staff, trainee medical staff and volunteers and between them all the HB has significantly increase compliance in this area. With the changing guidance and the inconsistent supply of certain models of Filtering Face piece (FFP) 3 mask changing put a huge strain on providing appropriate fit testing to front line employees, so without the dedication of these groups staff would not have been able to undertake their duties where aerosol generating procedures (AGP) were taking place. In addition to the disposable FFP3 masks, as part of the HB strategy a number of half masks and hoods were purchased, providing alternatives to the disposable FFP3 mask as not all staff had successful fit testing on the disposable FFP3 modes available. The half masks have been prioritised based on a risk based approach, with critical care areas such as:

- Theatre
- Intensive Treatment Unit
- Emergency Department
- Burns & Plastics







National PPE guidance - Current guidance published that has been agreed by:

Public Health England | GIG CYMRU NHS WALES – Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales | Academy of Medical Royal Colleges | Health Protection Scotland | NHS | HSC Public Health Agency

Additional considerations, in addition to standard infection prevention and control precautions.

Where there is sustained transmission of COVID-19, taking into account individual risk assessment for new and emerging pathogen, NHS and independent sector.

Setting	Context	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Disposable fluid repellent coverall/gown	Surgical mask	Fluid-resistant (Type11R) surgical mask 4	Filtering face piece respirator 1,3	Eye/face protection
Any setting	Direct patient/resident care assessing an individual that is not currently a possible or confirmed case2 (within 2 metres)	✓ single use3	✓ single use3	x	x	✓ single use3	x	✓ single use3
Any setting	Performing an aerosol generating procedure on an individual that is not currently a possible or confirmed case2	✓ single use3	x	✓ single use3	x	x	✓ single use3	✓ single use3

1. This may be single or reusable face/eye protection/full face visor or goggles. (Option for reusable filtering face piece respirator - half masks with filters)

2. A case is any individual meeting case definition for a possible or confirmed case: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel- coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases/investigation-and-initial-clinical-management-of-possible-cases-of-wuhan-novel-coronavirus-wn-cov-infection

3. Single use refers to disposal of PPE or decontamination of reusable items e.g. eye protection or respirator, after each patient and/or following completion of a procedure, task, or session; dispose or decontaminate reusable items after each patient contact as per Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs).

4. Risk assess refers to utilising PPE when there is an anticipated/likely risk of contamination with splashes, droplets of blood or body fluids. **Where staff consider there is a risk to themselves or the individuals they are caring for they should wear a fluid repellent surgical mask with or without eye protection as determined by the individual staff member for the care episode/single session.**

5. A single session refers to a period of time where a health care worker is undertaking duties in a specific care setting/exposure environment e.g. on a ward round; providing ongoing care for inpatients. A session ends when the health care worker leaves the care setting/exposure environment. Sessional use should always be risk assessed and consider the risk of infection to and from patients, residents and health and care workers where COVID-19 is circulating in the community and hospitals. PPE should be disposed of after each session or earlier if damaged, soiled, or uncomfortable.

6. The full list of aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) is within the IPC guidance [note APGs are undergoing a further review at present].



Alert ref: CEM/CMO/2020/027 - Personal protective equipment and heat: risk of heat stress

https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAlert.aspx?AlertID=103056

CMO advice on Medical Masks and Face Coverings

https://gov.wales/chief-medical-officers-advice-on-face-masks

Frequently Asked Questions

https://gov.wales/medical-masks-frequently-asked-questions

Daily COVID briefings from the Chief Executive and the Health Board Coronavirus (COVID-19) Co-ordination Centre, keeping staff informed of the latest information relating to COVID-19, so please visit the updates on the HB using the links:

http://abm.cymru.nhs.uk/intranet/bulletin.php?bulletin_id=13174



CORONAVIRUS UPDATES



CORONAVIRUS – COVID-19 intranet information

Please visit the HB intranet site for COVID-19 related information:

http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=743&pid=78026

Government pages for COVID-19 https://gov.wales/topic/980/latest

Decontamination and IPC

The healthcare environment and re-usable equipment may provide a reservoir for bacteria and other organisms, which may become a source of infection to vulnerable individuals. The environment and shared equipment should be decontaminated between uses following manufacturer's guidance;

Decontamination is a general term used to describe a combination of processes including cleaning, disinfecting or serialisation. The decontamination process is required to make medical devices and healthcare environments safe for patients, staff and visitors.

All healthcare workers should be aware of their responsibilities for maintaining a safe environment for patients, staff and visitors and address poor standards.

For further information or advice regarding environmental decontamination and/or cleaning: please email abm.infectionpreventionandcontrolteam@wales.nhs.uk

Current Public Health COVID-19: infection prevention and control guidance, updated 18 June 2020 States the following:

The increased frequency of decontamination/cleaning should be incorporated into the environmental decontamination schedules for all areas, including where there may be higher environmental contamination rates. Opportunities for cleaning of frequently touched surfaces multiple times (more than twice a day wherever possible) should be taken, including for example:



1. surfaces such as medical equipment, door/toilet handles and locker tops, patient call bells, over bed tables and bed rails must be cleaned at least twice daily, and when known to be contaminated with secretions, excretions or body fluids;
2. touch points in public areas such as lifts and corridor handrails; and
3. electronic equipment, including mobile phones, desk phones and other communication devices,
4. tablets, desktops, and keyboards (particularly where these are used by many people), should be decontaminated at least twice daily with 70% ethyl alcohol or product as specified by the manufacturer

NB. Gloves should be removed and hands decontaminated before touching equipment.











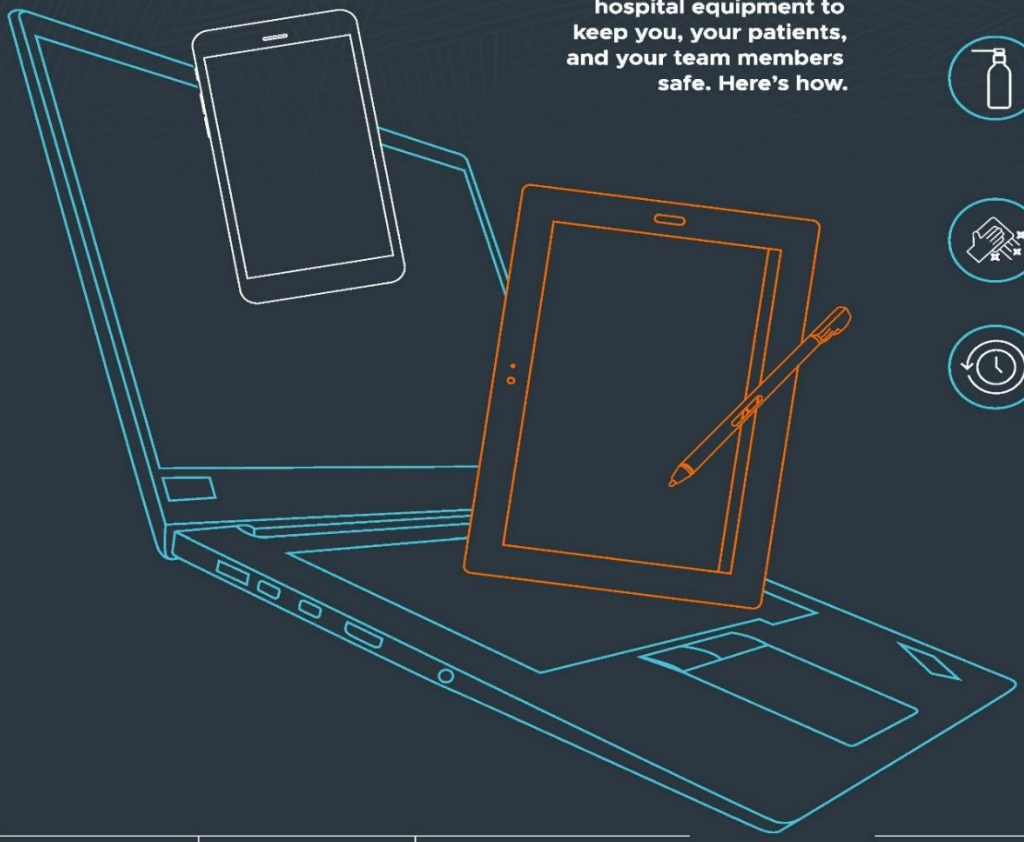
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Use Universal disposable disinfectant wipes

Disinfect your devices

4 steps to disinfection

The digital devices you handle all day need to be disinfected just like other hospital equipment to keep you, your patients, and your team members safe. Here's how.



1 WASH HANDS & DISCONNECT
Regular hand washing is the mainstay of infection prevention & control - On entering or leaving areas & after handling notes/equipment

2 REMOVE DEBRIS
Gently invert device or use compressed air. Remove fingerprints and residue.

3 DISINFECT
Wipe all surfaces with a Universal disposable disinfectant wipe.

4 DRY
Allow to dry completely before closing the device.

CLEANING
Removes germs, dust, dirt, and debris from surfaces to reduce the risk of infection.

VS.

DISINFECTING
Destroys or inactivates bacteria, viruses, and other disease-causing microorganisms to limit the spread of infection.

Always clean before disinfecting!

HOW OFTEN?
Ideally, you should disinfect mobile devices before and after every patient encounter that involves contact — also, before and after your shift.

DISINFECTING AGENTS
BEST
Universal wipes
NEVER
chlorine or bleach

50%–60%
of healthcare professionals use mobile handheld devices during patient care.[1]

Pathogens found on
80% of mobile phones and
81% of the hands using them[2]

PREVENTION PRACTICES can reduce healthcare-associated infections by as much as 70%.[3]

DON'T FORGET TO CLEAN ACCESSORIES!
External keyboards and mice, cords, earbuds, and headsets can all be disinfected using these steps. Make sure mouse trackballs are free from cleaner and cords are dry before stowing.

9 DAYS The amount of time a virus may be able to survive on surfaces[4]

HAND WASHING is the mainstay of infection control

For more COVID-19 infection control information please visit: bit.ly/2V5pqyl

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PHYSICAL (Social) DISTANCING

Swansea Bay University Health Board has introduced a Physical Distancing Cell, which consists of corporate, service delivery units and trade unions.

The initial priorities of the cell are:



- Reviewing the risk assessments completed to date for consistency and identify any gaps in assurance
- Consideration on the operational guide and further work required to ensure full compliance and addressing any further guidance
- A review of clinical areas and identifying potential reasonable steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of nosocomial transmission
- Coordination of further risk assessment work required, including with partners in Primary care and local authorities where HB staff are located in other premises
- Coordinating a communications approach with staff and public
- Working with logistics (PPE) cell to consider the implications of further guidance on PPE requirements
- Prioritising requests for investment in further physical distancing measures to ensure a consistent approach across the Health Board is met
- Identifying cross Unit issues that require resolution
- Identify Good Practice and cascading this across the organisation.
-



The HB produced in conjunction with trade union colleagues a checklist for managers and staff to use when conducting assessments of their areas of work, this has been complemented with a generic risk assessment with support available from the health & safety team and the physical distancing cell.



To date a number of options have been introduced to facilitate the requirements set out in Coronavirus virus legislation. Working from home; rotations; long/short days.

https://gov.wales/coronavirus-legislation-and-guidance-law









WE NEED YOU!



HEALTH & SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

If you have any ideas or suggestions for inclusion in future editions of this newsletter please let us know on SBU.SwanseaBayHealthandSafety@wales.nhs.uk

MORE INFORMATION

For queries or more information, please contact:

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OR

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Head of Health & Safety

SBU.SwanseaBayHealthandSafety@wales.nhs.uk