

Process for Using PPE which is not CE marked during COVID-19 Pandemic

Executive Lead: Director of Nursing & Patient Experience supported by Director of Public Health, Director of Therapies & Health Science and Medical Director.

Operational Lead: Associate Director of Health & Safety, supported by Health & Safety Tem and Rehabilitation Engineering Unit.

The starting point is that all staff must use CE marked PPE which complies with the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002. The CE marking signifies that the PPE satisfies certain basic safety requirements and has been tested and certified by an independent body – see attached list of certified bodies.

Where CE marked equipment is not available then we need to understand when it will be available and make a decision to determine whether non CE marked PPE can be used and distributed to staff.

The Health & Safety Team will take the lead on following this process supported by engineering colleagues in Rehabilitation Engineering Unit.

Section 1: Consider the following when assessing Suitability of the PPE:

- Does the PPE being consider protect the wearer from the risks and take account of the environmental conditions where the task is taking place?
- Does using the PPE being consider increase the overall level of risk or add new risks?
- Can it be adjusted to fit the wearer correctly?
- Is the PPE being considered compatible with other items of PPE which may need to be worn at the same time?

If all the answers are yes then proceed to consider training and instructions in section 2.

Document the rationale for the decision.

Section 2: Training and Instructions

- Will staff need training and instructions on the PPE being considered before being used?

If yes then arrange training before issuing the PPE.

If no then PPE can be issued to staff.

Decision to be documented.

Section 3: Obtain staff feedback

- Obtain staff feedback on the appropriateness of the PPE being used.