

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 October 2023 10:04  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: WHO SR updates

Hi [REDACTED]

Will take a closer look at the guidance today, however my initial thoughts are that we have this in the NIPCM HoC appendix:

*When caring for service users with infections spread by the droplet or airborne route, ventilation plays a key role in IPC. If the risk assessment concludes that an unacceptable risk of transmission remains within an environment after rigorous application of the HoC (e.g. unable to defer service user care, area poorly ventilated AND overcrowded) and only if there are no other more optimal lower risk areas suitable for service user placement, then health and care organisations may consider utilising the area for this purpose with provision of respiratory protective equipment (RPE) (FFP3 respirators) for the staff working in this area. This takes account of guidance issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) occupational health and safety for healthcare workers.*

I think we need to consider whether it is appropriate to include assessment of ventilation in a personal PPE assessment, as HCWs are not likely to know the state of the ventilation in the area. It might be more appropriate for the IPC team/organisation to make that decision for upgrading to RPE in an area.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]@nhs.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@nhs.scot>; [REDACTED]@nhs.scot>; [REDACTED]@nhs.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: WHO SR updates

I don't know if you have had a chance to review?

The statement Jacqui is referring to:

2. Suggested factors for informing the choice of the type of mask include a risk assessment and health and care workers' values and preferences. WHO suggests respirators be used in care settings where ventilation is known to be poor or cannot be assessed, or the ventilation system is not properly maintained. (Conditional recommendation, based on low certainty of evidence)

Do you think we cover this through individual risk assessment?

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Jacqui Reilly [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@nhs.scot>  
**Subject:** WHO SR updates

Hi [REDACTED]

Making sure you've seen this- published 9/10. HCW preference remains so RPE or PPE for masks for COVID-19 based on this. I think our guidance should have this as a minimum so it is worth revisiting HCW preference with CNOD (and

HSE) as you review TBPs if possible. The other PPE listed also might warrant consideration as do long term care and home care sections?

KR

Jacqui