



Erewash Health
PARTNERSHIP

Patients Wearing a Face Covering or Mask Policy

Responsible Person	Updated	Review Date	Version
Practice Manager	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	1.1

Introduction

As per government guidelines regarding face coverings/mask, due to COVID-19, please adhere to the following:

- Ensure that patients are advised that they need to wear an appropriate face covering/mask, on booking their appointment and when entering the surgery.

A face covering should:

1. Cover your nose and mouth while allowing you to breathe comfortably
 2. Fit comfortably but securely against the side of the face
 3. Be secured to the head with ties or ear loops
 4. Be made of a material that you find to be comfortable and breathable, such as cotton
 5. Ideally include at least two layers of fabric (the World Health Organization recommends three depending on the fabric used)
 6. Unless disposable, it should be able to be washed with other items of laundry according to fabric washing instructions and dried without causing the face covering to be damaged
- If a patient is exempt from wearing a face covering/mask they must produce the appropriate documentation to prove this and be offered the use of a visor to protect themselves and staff during their visit to the surgery. (www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own)
 - If the patient has no exemption and refuses to wear a face covering/mask, the use of a visor will be offered.
 - If the patient refuses to wear a face covering/mask or a visor, they will then be 'risk assessed' and if appropriate will be asked to wait outside the building. It will then be the decision of the clinician to decide on the safest way to consult with the patient; this could be either by telephone, outside the surgery, or they may invite them in to be examined in a well ventilated area. If the patient is unwilling to do this they still need to be offered care, in the form of being guided to 111 etc., which should then be recorded in the patients' notes to show they were offered care/treatment, but the patient refused.

Comprising of Adam House Medical Centre; Aitune Medical Practice; Eden Practice; Gladstone House Practice; The Golden Brook Practice; Littlewick Medical Centre; Moir Medical Centre; Park View Medical Centre; Dr Purnell's Surgery; Dr Webb and Partners