


Model Risk Assessment					Ref No: COVID-19	
Activity	Face-fit testing for masks to be used by frontline Ambulance Trusts and/or NHS frontline staff during Covid-19 pandemic				Status	Final
Location	Testing Hubs				Reviewed	Tbc
Section					Next review	Tbc
Assessed by			Specific		Version no.	Tbc
Role /No/Dept			Generic	X		



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Severity		Likelihood					Risk Rating	
		1. Rare	2. Unlikely	3. Possible	4. Very Likely	5. Almost Certain		
1	No Injury	1	2	3	4	5	Low Risk 1-5	No Further action Required
2	First Aid	2	4	6	8	10	Medium Risk 6-12	Review control measures - proceed
3	7 Day Injury	3	6	9	12	15	High risk 15-25	Do Not Proceed
4	Major Injury	4	8	12	16	20		
5	Fatality	5	10	15	20	25		

Generic Hazard and Risk Information:

Face-fitting for masks to be used by frontline Ambulance Trust staff and/or frontline NHS clinical care staff working with Covid-19 patients (suspected/confirmed)

Where Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) is used, it must be able to provide adequate protection for individual wearers. RPE can't protect the wearer if it leaks. A major cause of leaks is poor fit – tight-fitting facepieces need to fit the wearer's face to be effective.

FRSs will have personnel trained in face-fitting of masks

Activity	Hazard	Risk	Person at Risk		Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating			ACCEPT (Y or N)	Further control measures implemented from action plan – re-score	New Risk Rating			ACCEPT (Y or N)
			Staff	Other		L	X	S = RR			L	X	S = RR	
Attending sites to carry out activity	Unfamiliarity of building and its layout resulting in slips, trips and falls Moving vehicles	Minor injury Musculoskeletal injury	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guided tour of building. Safety brief including evacuation points, access and egress routes, evacuation alarm testing regime and house rules. Identification of welfare facilities, including toilets and canteen facilities. Only utilise buildings/parts of buildings essential to the task Use of designated walkways/parking bays Access to any fobs required to access the building 	1	3	3	Y					
Attending sites to carry out activity	Inadequate Welfare and hygiene facilities	Biohazards: e.g. pathogens, infection from blood and other bodily fluids including COVID-19	√		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welfare facilities for Face-fit testers which are used by other 'COVID-sterile' health/ care practitioners to be of the same standard Facilities for suitable rest breaks for face-fit testers and in appropriate areas that can maintain social distancing measures as described by PHE Suitable facilities for face-fit testers to change clothing Suitable facilities for adequate hand hygiene to be adopted and adhered to as per PHE guidance Suitable facilities to correctly dispose of PPE as clinical/medical waste Only utilise buildings/parts of buildings essential to the task 	1	5	5	Y					
Face mask fitting	Competence of personnel Carrying out Face fit testing Lack of qualifications and training of personnel carrying out Face fit testing	Insufficient seal being achieved resulting in breach in PPE due to poor fitting and possible exposure to biological hazard including COVID-19	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face-fit testers conducting testing will have received the relevant instruction and training from the chief medical nurse or equivalent competent person/s Following relevant instruction and training staff will be deemed competent Competence can be demonstrated by accreditation under the 'Fit2Fit RPE Fit Test Providers Accreditation 	1	5	5	Y					

					<p>Scheme' or other suitable and recognised action to comply with the law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face-fit testing should only be conducted by a competent person. • Re-familiarisation is provided to those face-fit testers who have not practised facemask fitting for some time • Face-fit testers will be kept up to date with any changes in practice • Face fitting equipment will be used by practitioners within the manufactures guidance 									
Face mask fitting	Viral contamination	Biohazards: e.g. pathogens, infection from blood and other bodily fluids including COVID-19	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel who have symptoms of COVID-19 or are isolating in accordance with government guidance must not attend a face fit test and should be in self-isolation as per PHE guidance • Where practicable, face fit-testers should follow government advice on social distancing, as they can make observations from this distance and deliver any instructions verbally • Face-fit tester and the candidate not to come into skin-to-skin contact or close to the exhaled breath of the other without suitable PPE as per PHE guidance • Those being fitted should keep their respirators on if closer observation is required to minimise risk to testers • Both the fit tester and those being fit tested should wash their hands before and after the test in accordance with PHE guidelines • Those being fit tested with non-disposable masks should clean the mask themselves before and immediately after the test using a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe (check with manufacturer to avoid damaging the mask) 	2	5	10	Y	<p>A manager of suitable seniority, if available, will be on scene at external venues to deal with any events or difficulties that may arise</p> <p>Transparent screening at head and chest level or suitable protection for airways and eyes to be provided where practicable</p>	1	5	5	Y

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test facepieces that cannot be adequately disinfected (e.g. disposable half masks) should not be used by more than one individual. • Face-fit testers should wear disposable nitrile gloves x2 when undertaking cleaning of the tubes, hoods etc and ensure they remove gloves following the correct procedure • Immediately dispose of used gloves, disposable masks, cleaning wipes etc in a waste bag and dispose of in accordance with PHE guidance • Face-fit testers should use face-fit testing equipment as per manufacturers operating procedures • Any pre/post equipment test as per manufactures guidance should be completed 									
Decontamination of PPE	Viral contamination	Biohazards: e.g. pathogens, infection from blood and other bodily fluids including COVID-19	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt PHE guidance on Doffing PPE • Clean all equipment using approved disinfectant • Follow PHE guidance on decontamination of all PPE • Follow PHE hand hygiene guidance • Adopt recognised procedure for disposal of clinical/biological waste • Decontaminate in a designated area thus maintaining sterile areas elsewhere 	1	5	5	Y					
Cleaning of equipment	<p>Cross Contamination of equipment</p> <p>Ineffective cleaning of equipment</p> <p>Failure of equipment</p>	<p>Viral infection</p> <p>Minor Physical injury</p> <p>Potential exposure to COVID-19</p>	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean all surfaces and equipment with approved disinfectant • Follow PHE guidance on the use of suitable PPE • Follow COSHH guidance for protective equipment when using chemical disinfectants • All equipment to be visually inspected and wiped down prior to use • Any equipment faults to be recorded, reported and replaced. • Areas left in a sterile state and communicated 	1	5	5	Y					

