

PPE Advice

The following government advice is that we must wear a visor and gloves as the minimum PPE requirement:

“VISOR: This should take the form of a clear visor that covers the face and provides a barrier between the wearer and the client from respiratory droplets caused by sneezing, coughing or speaking. Visors must fit the user and be worn properly. It should cover the forehead, extend below the chin, and wrap around the side of the face.

GLOVES: Unless crucial for the treatment, change practices to avoid any potential skin to skin contact or use gloves where possible.”

If you follow these minimum PPE requirements given in the Government advice and you follow the guidelines issued by GCMT or your Professional Association and then your Professional Liability insurance position will be protected. If you have any doubts, we would suggest you contact your insurers directly.

However, we would suggest that in order to ensure safety for yourselves and your clients, that further PPE (i.e. apron and IIR mask) along with the client wearing a mask/face covering too, may be more appropriate in order to mitigate risk. We feel this provides better protection for yourself and clients, is aligned to medical advice and instils confidence in you from the client.

This is only our suggestion; it is not mandatory and is not required under Government guidelines. It will be a personal decision based on your own assessment of risk as to whether or not you follow this advice.

If you choose not to wear full PPE all the time, we strongly suggest that in the following circumstances that you reconsider in order to protect yourself and your clients:

If you are a mobile therapist

When the client is more vulnerable:

Client over 70 yrs old
Asthmatic/lung conditions
Diabetic
Heart condition
Pregnancy
Depleted immune system

When the client is exposed to Covid-19 in their employment:

NHS or front-line worker
A carer in a home care setting
Someone shielding a vulnerable adult