

A2 Aerosol Generating Procedure

Extra Care Housing Service	Support at Home Service	OA Day Services	Residential Services	DMH Day Services	DMH Supported Living Services	Community Equipment Services	Shared Lives Service
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Policy

To ensure staff are fully supported with the correct PPE and any IPC requirements if requested to enter a room where there maybe use of aerosol generated equipment.

Procedure

1. Aerosol generated procedure (AGP) is a medical procedure undertaken by health staff.
2. Procedures not classed as AGP:
 - Oral or pharyngeal (pharynx is the part of the throat behind the mouth and nasal cavity and above the oesophagus and trachea) suctioning (suctioning to clear mucus or saliva from the mouth) is not classed as an AGP.
 - Expert consensus is that chest compressions are not considered to be procedures that pose a higher risk for respiratory infections including COVID-19. The emergency operator will give instructions around safe CPR procedure.
3. Certain procedures or equipment may generate an aerosol from material other than patient secretions but are not considered to represent a significant infectious risk for COVID-19. Procedures in this category include administration of humidified oxygen, administration of Entonox or medication via nebulisation.

What is An Aerosol Generating Procedure

1. Most Care/ Support Workers are **not expected** to undertake aerosol generating procedures (AGPs), they may though have to enter an environment where a person has a AGP supported by the District Nursing Team.
2. An AGP is a medical procedure that can cause the release of very small particles These particles are microscopic and stay in the air longer than standard droplets released into the immediate area these can increase the risk of respiratory transmission.
3. AGPs include suctioning procedures needed by a person with a tracheostomy, someone who is receiving continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) or ventilatory support (Full list above).
4. The highest risk of transmission of respiratory viruses is during AGPs.

Procedure for Manager / Supervisors

1. The supervisor / manager will check on receiving a referral whether the person's care or support requires an AGP. Most support workers are not generally expected to undertake AGPs and therefore **do not** typically need to wear FFP3 respirators. Any Service User being supported with a AGPs will have this detailed at point of

referral and in their person-centred care / support plan. Advice should be sought from Public Health as how to proceed as training will be required for the staff.

If a permanent service user's care and support needs change and there is a requirement for an AGP Public Health MUST be contacted immediately.

2. If an AGP is in place advice MUST be taken immediately from Public Health, Health Protection Specialists:

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The Quality Assurance and Governance Manager must also be informed.

Public Health AGP procedure can be accessed using Appendix 1.

3. If an AGP is in place advice MUST be taken from IPC / Public Health who will advise accordingly on the staff training required.
4. If a member of staff is concerned there may be an AGP for a service user the supervisor must be informed immediately, and public health will be contacted for further advice.
If an Aerosol Generating Procedure is in place for a service user, this should be carried out by a health care professional.

PPE Required during AGPs follow public health guidance Appendix 1

For further information, to report a concern or ask for further details please contact your manager or any of the below:

IPC@cumberland.gov.uk