

June 5th 2023

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: Summer 23 COVID-19 management in dialysis units' patient update

You have been given this letter because you are a person receiving haemodialysis treatment. We wish to update you as to some changes in the personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines in the dialysis units.

It is no longer compulsory for staff and patients to wear a mask in the dialysis units or whilst travelling to and from the unit if using the hospital transport system. If you wish to continue to wear a mask for personal reasons then please do.

The guidance below remains in place and will be regularly reviewed:

- We will check your temperature when you enter the unit and you will be asked about any symptoms (temperature, headache, cough, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, upset stomach, diarrhoea, vomiting, loss of appetite).
- You must wash or gel your hands on arrival.
- If you develop any symptoms at home, please call the dialysis centre **before** you come in for dialysis. This is to reduce contact with other patients. Your dialysis **must** continue, we will arrange testing and transfer you to Charing Cross if positive
- If you have symptoms of Covid-19 or any other respiratory infection you will need to wear a mask on the unit and in the transport vehicle.
- We recommend keep a supply of lateral flow tests at home which are available for free via the government website.
- Please DO NOT share any food with others
- Please continue to follow government guidance for Covid & influenza vaccination.

If you have any questions, please raise them with the dialysis unit team or Head nurse.

Kind regards

HE Watts

J Tomlinson

Helen Watts , Lead nurse Dialysis service
James Tomlinson , Consultant nephrologist.
(signed electronically)