



10th November 2020

COVID-19 Update No 26

Content of this update

- PPE

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Dear Colleagues,

PPE

You will be delighted to hear that the long-awaited Alpha Solway H series FFP3 masks are now available for fit testing and use. This is the replacement for the 3M 1863 mask and may also provide a solution for people who have not been able to fit test to the 1863 or 1863+

It is expected the H Series will be available to order via the PECOS system from the 23rd November for those who have passed a face fit test.

In terms of people being fitted to this mask, our first priority will be to those members of the dental team who have not been able to achieve a fit test to date to try to get them into a position where they can provide AGP care for patients. We have a list of these people and the Pathway Office from Duncan Street will be contacting them in the near future to arrange testing. Once that is underway we will contact those people who have been fitted to the 3M 1863 mask to arrange fit testing either to this new mask or to the 3M 1863+/9330+ for ongoing use. If you are currently using the 1863 I would ask that you please do not contact us to arrange for re-testing. We will contact you, once we have given priority to those who haven't been able to fit test to either the 1863 or 1863+.

If you are currently using the 1863, it will remain available through PECOS until the turn of the year and we would expect you to continue to use this mask while it is available.

National Services Scotland (NSS) has informed us that in future the 3M 9330+ respirator will be available for those who have been successfully face fit tested to the the 3M 1863+. The 3M 9330+ is same mask as the 1863+, with the exception that it has been branded/badged differently. If you have been successfully face fit tested to one then there is no requirement to be face fit tested to the other. It is expected that the 9330+ will also be available to order via PECOS from 23rd November.

With all my best

Angus Walls

Director of Dentistry NHS Lothian