







## ALERT LEVEL 3 AND 4: Personal protective equipment (PPE) in Maternity settings

If you **do not know know someone's COVID-19 status** – prior to contact with them (by phone), or upon entry to maternity unit, while maintaining physical distancing of at least 2 m, please ask them the risk assessment questions outlined in *Alert Level 3 and 4: Risk assessment questions if COVID-19 status is unknown*.<sup>1</sup>







The **risk assessment** will help you determine appropriate PPE for initial contact.

No matter what a person's COVID-19 status is, follow Standard Precautions<sup>2</sup> for all care, use appropriate clinical judgement for PPE and refer to your organisational IPC guidance.

**Table 1:** Women who are probable or confirmed COVID-19 cases, or meet the Clinical and Higher Index of Suspicion (HIS) criteria<sup>3</sup>

In addition to Standard Precautions, apply Contact and Airborne Precautions. <sup>2</sup> Please provide the woman a mask to wear if tolerated.	 Hand Hygiene <sup>4</sup>	 Medical Mask	 P2/N95 Particulate Respirator <sup>5</sup>	 Eye Protection <sup>6</sup>	 Gloves	 Fluid Resistant Gown or Plastic apron
Providing care	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 2:** Women who are not probable or confirmed COVID-19 cases, and do not meet the Clinical and Higher Index of Suspicion (HIS) criteria<sup>3</sup>

Standard Precautions apply. <sup>2</sup> Please provide the woman a mask to wear.	 Hand Hygiene <sup>4</sup>	 Medical Mask	 P2/N95 Particulate Respirator <sup>5</sup>	 Eye Protection <sup>6</sup> optional	 Gloves	 Fluid Resistant Gown or Plastic apron
Providing care not involving exposure to body fluids	✓	✓	✗	-	✗	✗
Providing cares that may involve exposure to blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, or medication assistance (including: taking bloods/vaginal swabs, doing a stretch and sweep)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Early first stage of labour care	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
During birth care (late first, second and third stage)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

**Note:** Support person must wear a face covering at all times.

Please refer to guidance on how to safely put on, take off and dispose of PPE: [www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health](http://www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health)

- [www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health](http://www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health)
- Frequently Asked Questions about PPE*, available at [www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health](http://www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health)
- As per the case definition: [www.health.govt.nz/covid19-case-definition](http://www.health.govt.nz/covid19-case-definition)
- Perform hand hygiene. [www.handhygiene.org.nz](http://www.handhygiene.org.nz)
- P2/N95 respirator must comply with AS/NZS 1716:2012 Respiratory protective devices.
- Face shield or goggles. Prescription glasses are not classed as eye protection