

Ref no: 011090620  
From: Public  
Date: 0906/20  
Subject: Mental health patients

## REQUEST & RESPONSE

1. Where mental health patients arriving at your Trust's hospital(s) or A&E department(s) are asked to wait before being assessed and whether this is in an area where patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are.  
**There is a separate waiting area for MH patients.**
2. Are waiting/assessment areas completely separate, with their own access and exit areas and other facilities including but not exclusively toilets?  
**As above. There is no separate exit however due to security precautions**
3. Are mental health patients given PPE if asked to walk through COVID-19 contaminated areas?  
**All patients are given PPE**
4. What is the policy to determine whether an arriving mental health patient should be treated in a COVID-19 zone?  
**All patients are triaged clinically. If they are suspected as being high risk COVID positive through their clinical observations, or they have been in contact with a known Positive case, they are accommodated in COVID (warm) zone, which is cubicle based only.**
5. Are patients arriving given any warning about the increased risk of COVID-19 infection from hospital? What measures are in place for patients who lack capacity to understand and consent to these warnings?  
**Yes. Relatives or carers are allowed in to any consultation with them. If they present on their own, they are risk assessed and referred to the specialist MH team for a rapid assessment.**