

FACE COVERINGS

attitudes and practices within close contact retail services

12 Practice recommendations from a research study funded by UK Government

The findings of this study represent workers that provide close contact services and members of the public that receive these services in small consulting rooms (e.g. within opticians, community pharmacies, hair and beauty salons, holistic therapy centres, podiatrists etc.).

Face covering storage and disposal

- Provision of a **storage bag/pouch** with purchased reusable face coverings may **support easy and hygienic storage**
- Consider the **disposal provisions** made available to the public within retail environments to encourage members of the public to **promptly dispose** of surgical face coverings

Sharing information and practices

- Collate and publicise practices that help those **wearing glasses** to overcome challenges with them fogging up when wearing a face covering
- Increasing information related to the **different types/styles of face covering** and related products available may **support informed choice**
- Individuals should be encouraged to **try different types and styles of face coverings** to find one that they are **confident and comfortable wearing**
- Provision of **infographics** should be encouraged in addition to **text based guidance**

Role of employers/retailers

- Employers continuing to **encourage** use of face coverings amongst their staff may **prompt members of the public** to wear face coverings
- Employers/retailers could most usefully maintain emphasis on the **protective benefits** of face coverings within a retail consulting room at the **point of entering this space**
- Careful **monitoring** to ensure **no adverse impact** arises from changes made to **aspects of work** conducted within retail consulting rooms

Role of Government and stakeholders

- It may be of use for the UK Government to provide a **trusted gateway to accessible research**
- Emphasise the value gained from **trade unions, federations, professional bodies** and **charities** translating generic Government recommendations into specific guidance
- **Maintain the supply of available face coverings** for workers to encourage **easy and free access**

As a result of this project recommendations have been made for policy, practice and research. Want to understand more? Read the final report and infographics [here](#)



This study is part of a wider programme of work: The PROTECT COVID-19 National Core Study on transmission and environment, funded by UK Government

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