

# COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Covid-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a virus called Coronavirus. Symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal. This risk assessment has been produced specifically for the hazard of **Coronavirus spreading within our scan centres** to identify who may be at risk, and what controls we have considered and implemented.

Who might be harmed?	How might they be harmed?	Controls considered	Outcome of review	Implemented
Staff, Pregnant Women, Partner, Couriers	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing	In line with BMUS and RcoG guidance, prevent entry to anyone showing COVID-19 symptoms by: Checking if signs of persistent cough Check temperature for a fever	This would only be effective and safe if visitors were prevented from entering the premises in the first instance. Lock doors to prevent unchecked entry Provide door intercom to allow customers to notify reception of their arrival Check for signs of cough on entry Temperature checks would have to be performed at arm's length, from the side without contact in order to protect staff performing the checks, and prevent cross contamination to other people being checked. Provide contact-free thermometers for staff use to check temperature on entry	<b>Yes</b>
		Maintain social distancing of 2m (6.5ft) in accordance with PHE guidance	This can be achieved at all times whilst in the general scan centre areas. Ensure that all seating are at least 2m from any other seating Provide separate waiting areas for customers that are waiting to be scanned, and those that have been scanned where possible. Reduce appointments to 1x 15-minute appointment every 30 minutes to reduce the likelihood of more than one customer in the scan centre at any time Only 3 adults from social bubble to attend the appointment with the pregnant mum, plus any dependent children.	<b>Yes</b>

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Staff, Pregnant Women, Partner, Couriers	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing	Maintain social distancing of 2m (6.5ft) in accordance with PHE guidance (Continued..)	The sonographer must be less than 2m away in order to perform the ultrasound procedure, and therefore will be unable to maintain strict social distancing.  Both the sonographer and pregnant woman should wear a face covering at all times.  Face masks will be supplied where one is not already being worn.  The sonographer will be provided with a face shield in addition to a face mask for their protection if they choose to wear it.	<b>Yes</b>
		Require that face covering is worn at all times within the scan centre	Wearing a face mask, according to HM Government is that the evidence suggests that wearing a face covering does not protect you, but it may protect others if you are infected but have not developed symptoms.  Face coverings must be worn by anyone entering the scan centre. This includes both staff and customers	<b>Yes</b>
		Require staff to wear aprons at all times whilst in the scan centre	Following the advice of BMUS, the use of disposable plastic aprons only provides protection when coming into contact with bodily fluids, or when in contact with known COVID-19 patients.  Where staff are concerned about contact onto their clothing, they can wear scrubs and place these into scrub bags at the end of the day to keep these separate from their other laundry  Aprons will not be required for staff to wear in the scan centre	<b>No</b>
		Install perspex screens between staff and customers at various points in the scan centre.	The likelihood of transferring the virus after sanitising their hands, wearing face coverings, and not showing symptoms is very low.  Screens would hinder the sonographer's ability to do their job in a safe manner following good posture guidance and would provide no additional protection over other methods already introduced.  Perspex screens will not be fitted	<b>No</b>

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Staff, Pregnant Women, Partner, Couriers	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing	Use of barriers to discourage customers from neighbouring businesses and public from passing close to the entrance when people may be entering or exiting our scan centres unnecessarily.	A large barrier spanning across an area providing an obstruction will encourage people to go around automatically, giving the entrance area to the scan centre a wide-birth.  Staff will put the barrier out and bring in daily so as to not cause obstruction to vehicles out of hours.	<b>Yes</b>
		Remove tea and coffee facilities	We normally provide tea & coffee for customers in the scan centre. At this point a carrier could leave traces of the virus on the cup offering.  These are self-service increasing the chance of contamination and spread to other customers.  Withdraw tea & coffee facilities until the infection rate has dropped further	<b>Yes</b>
		Clean high contact points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean door handles after every use</li> <li>Clean Ring video doorbell after every use</li> <li>Spray toilet door, sink and flush with anti-bacterial disinfectant regularly</li> </ul>	Cleaning high-contact points, particularly at the entrance and exits to the scan centre will help to prevent the virus from being picked up from surfaces.  Clean surfaces, handles and contact points using clinical anti-bacterial wipes, or using anti-bacterial disinfectant  Provide access to hand washing and sanitisation facilities throughout the scan centre	<b>Yes</b>
		Replace fabric towels with disposable paper towels to reduce the risk of cross-contamination from one person to another where good hand washing techniques have not been followed.	Soft fabrics are considered to hold the virus for longer due to their difficulty to clean. Current guidance should avoid people passing items between them that haven't been disinfected first.  In addition to providing paper towels, these should be through a no-contact/ low-contact dispenser to reduce the likelihood of passing through the surfaces.  Provide additional guidance at hand sanitisation stations, bathrooms and sinks throughout the scan centres to ensure that good hand washing techniques are followed by everyone	<b>Yes</b>

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Staff, Pregnant Women, Partner, Couriers	Infection passing from surfaces to someone in the scan centre.	Hand wash on entry/exit	On entry to the scan centre ensures that Coronavirus is not brought onto surfaces in the scan centre.  On exit ensures that where someone has come into contact with the virus through a person or surface, this is not taken out of the scan centre reducing the likelihood of becoming infected when they later remove their mask.  Guidance posters in the scan centre	<b>Yes</b>
		Clean iPads after every use	iPads should be removed from their fabric cases as these would be more difficult to clean.  The iPad itself is smooth and flat by design making is easier to clean with anti-bacterial wipes than computer keyboard and mice  iPad should be wiped down with an anti-bacterial wipe  iPad should then be dried using disposable tissue so as to not re-contaminate it  Wipe and paper towel should be disposed of in the bin after use  Higher capacity bins to be provided throughout the scan centre for the disposal of towels and wipes	<b>Yes</b>
		Clean ultrasound equipment after every use	Through our existing infection control measures the ultrasound machine, probe and cables are already cleaned following each scan using clinical anti-bacterial wipes.  Hygiene roll is already used on the bed covering the bed entirely, and this is disposed of after every scan ensuring no contact with the bed surface.  Existing measures to continue to be followed.	<b>Yes</b>

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Staff	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing	Require sonographers to wear face shields in addition to face masks	Sonographers will be less than 2m is it therefore essential that both the sonographer and the patient wear face masks during the scan to provide safety to each other.  Face shields will be made available, but not mandatory to wear. Face masks mandatory for both sonographer and patient	<b>No</b>
		Require sonographers to wear gloves	Our standard infection control methods allow sonographers to choose either to wear gloves, disposed of after every scan, or to sanitise their hands after every scan.  The use of gloves will be made mandatory as this may be more effective than relying on handwashing alone	<b>Yes</b>
		Require receptionists to wear face shields in addition to face masks	Whilst receptionists practice social distancing and everyone is required to wear face coverings in enclosed spaces, there is no additional benefits of wearing a face shield.  Face shields will be made available, but not mandatory for receptionists to wear	<b>No</b>
	Require staff to wear aprons at all times whilst in the scan centre	In line with BMUS, the use of disposable plastic aprons only provides protection when coming into contact with bodily fluids, or when in contact with known COVID-19 patients.  Scrubs and scrub bags are available to keep these separate from their other laundry  Aprons will not be required for staff to wear in the scan centre  Fertility scans will be suspended at this time to reduce the risk of contact with bodily fluids.	<b>No</b>	
	Infection passing from surfaces to someone in the scan centre.	Clean reception computer regularly	The computer keyboard, mouse and touch screen need to be cleaned at least daily, or when used by more than one person.  Receptionists should deep clean all surfaces and the computer at least daily  Receptionists should also clean their hands regularly	<b>Yes</b>

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Elderly	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing or Infection passing from surfaces to someone in the scan centre.	Restrict elderly from attending the scan centre	<p>The older and elderly population are at greater risk from the symptoms of contracting the virus with more than 88% of all COVID-19 related deaths being people ages 65 and over.</p> <p>Government guidance related to shielding of the elderly has been adjusted to no longer recommend shielding.</p> <p>We will allow guests over the age of 65 to attend appointments as guests as long as they meet other restrictions including being a member of your social bubble.</p>	<b>No</b>
Children	Infection passing from one person to another directly through contact, coughing or sneezing or Infection passing from surfaces to someone in the scan centre.	Restrict children from attending the scan centre	<p>Children are not seen to be immune to the virus. They so far, in the vast majority of cases appear to suffer little or no symptoms when infected.</p> <p>This can make it very difficult to identify whether a child visiting the scan centre is infected. The risk here appears not to be to the child/children, but to adults and in particular other pregnant women visiting the scan centre.</p> <p>Where a parent attends clinic that lives with an already infected dependent, it is likely that they would already be infected and carrying COVID-19. Therefore, there is no perceived greater risk from allowing children to attend with their parent, than the parent attending without them.</p> <p>Not attending a wellbeing scan due to childcare issues could have a greater impact on the wellbeing of the baby and mother.</p> <p>We will be allowing dependent children under the age of 16 to attend the appointment with their parent. Children must observe the 2m social distancing rule and are the responsibility of their parents, and should wear a face covering where possible.</p>	<b>No</b>