

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 is a **generic Risk Assessment** for dealing with the current Covid-19 situation in the workplace. It is not likely to cover all scenarios and each area of operation should consider their own unique circumstances. More specific assessments, such as that for health care workers, may look quite different although many of the principles will still be relevant and each site is to produce a site specific operating procedure.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed	Controls Required	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff • Visitors to AoA premises • Cleaners • Contractors • Drivers • Vulnerable groups – Elderly, Pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions • Anyone else who physically comes into contact with AoA staff or premises. 	<p>Hand Washing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing facilities with soap and water in place. • Stringent hand washing taking place. • See hand washing guidance. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/ • Drying of hands with disposable paper towels. https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/research-and-innovation/paper-towels-much-more-effective-at-removing-viruses-than-hand-dryers-17-04-2020/ 	<p>Employees to be reminded on a regular basis to wash their hands for 20 seconds with water and soap and the importance of proper drying with disposable towels. Also reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Tissues will be made available throughout the workplace. Hand sanitiser to be made available where appropriate or where there is no facility for hand washing.</p>	All Staff	Regularly	

Action on Addiction: COVID Risk Assessment

		<p>Taking steps to review work schedules including start & finish times/shift patterns, working from home etc. to reduce number of workers on site at any one time. Also relocating workers to other tasks.</p> <p>Redesigning processes to ensure social distancing in place.</p> <p>Conference calls to be used instead of face to face meetings.</p> <p>Ensuring sufficient rest breaks for staff.</p> <p>Social distancing also to be adhered to in canteen area and smoking area.</p> <p><u>Wearing of Gloves</u> Where Risk Assessment identifies wearing of gloves as a requirement of the job, an adequate supply of these will be provided. Staff will be instructed on how to remove gloves carefully to reduce contamination and how to dispose of them safely.</p> <p><u>Respiratory Protective Equipment</u> <i>Public Health guidance on the use of PPE (personal protective equipment) to protect against COVID-19 relates to health care settings. In all other settings individuals are asked to observe social distancing measures</i></p>	<p>Staff to be reminded on a daily basis of the importance of social distancing both in the workplace and outside of it. Management checks to ensure this is adhered to.</p> <p>Staff to be reminded that wearing of gloves is not a substitute for good hand washing.</p>	<p>Line managers</p> <p>Line Manager</p>	<p>Daily</p>	
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		<p><i>and practice good hand hygiene behaviours</i></p> <p>Where RPE is a requirement for risks associated with the work undertaken the following measures will be followed-</p> <p>Tight-fitting respirators (such as disposable FFP3 masks and reusable half masks) rely on having a good seal with the wearer’s face. A face fit test will be carried out to ensure the respiratory protective equipment (RPE) can protect the wearer. Wearers must be clean shaven.</p> <p><u>Symptoms of Covid-19</u></p> <p>If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste or a high temperature in the workplace they will be sent home and advised to follow the stay at home guidance.</p> <p>Line managers will maintain regular contact with staff members during this time.</p>	<p>To minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 during face-fit testing the following additional measures should be carried out –</p> <p>Both the fit tester and those being fit tested should wash their hands before and after the test.</p> <p>Those being fit tested with non-disposable masks should clean the mask themselves before and immediately after the test using a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe (check with manufacturer to avoid damaging the mask). Test face pieces that cannot be adequately disinfected (e.g. disposable half masks) should not be used by more than one individual.</p> <p>Fit testers should wear disposable gloves when undertaking cleaning of the tubes, hoods etc. and ensure they remove gloves following the correct procedure (PDF)</p> <p>Reference https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/face-mask-ppe-rpe-coronavirus.htm</p> <p>Internal communication channels and cascading of messages through line managers will be carried out regularly to reassure and support employees in a fast changing situation.</p>	<p>Who is the Fit Tester?</p>		
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