



Heads of Primary Care – all Health Boards

5 November 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Since the last stakeholder group it has become increasingly obvious that there are still global challenges around securing FFP3 masks. While the Welsh Government is committed to funding PPE for NHS dental practices during the amber phase, it is important you are made aware of the challenges and risk to supply.

The supply of type IIR masks does not appear to be a problem at the moment, with good stock levels and this will continue to financially benefit NHS dental practices, especially factoring in the extra masks that are required as part of the enhanced infection control measures.

The NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) will continue to supply FFP3 masks where possible but before stocks are depleted it would be sensible to advise your local practices to look at using alternative respirator masks, such as re-useable masks if you have not already done so. NWSSP are not able to supply these type of masks as they are currently not part of the national agreement. The Welsh Government will not be funding PPE outside this procurement and supply framework operated by NWSSP.

NWSSP are working hard to secure FFP3 masks and hopefully they will still be able to continue to supply these masks.

Yours sincerely,

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Uwch Swyddog Deintyddol  
Deputy Chief Dental Officer