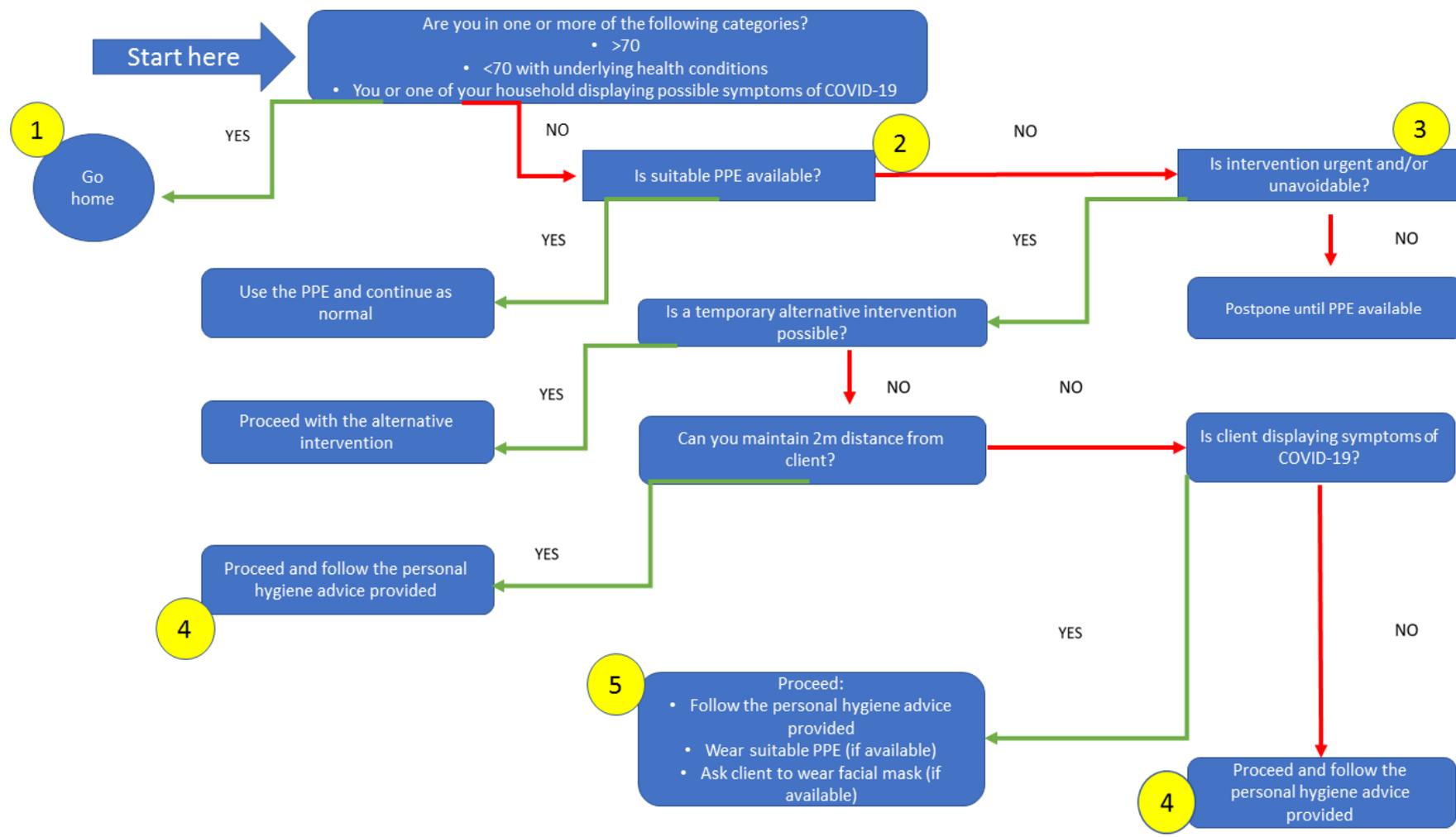


Principles for use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by SCC employees

The following flowchart provides a consistent approach to the use of PPE for all SCC employees. National guidance is likely to change on this issue; the principles given here will be documented accordingly. The numbers on the flow chart correspond to additional advice on the following page.



1.

Older than 70 years	'Social distance' for 12 weeks
Less than 70 years with a known, significant long term condition	'Social distance' for 12 weeks
Less than 70 years with symptoms of possible C-19 infection	Self-isolate for 7 days
Less than 70 years with a household member displaying symptoms of possible C-19 infection	Self-isolate for 14 days

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

2. Suitable PPE refers to whatever would be normal practice for any particular intervention *in addition to* anything required due to the client's potential C-19 status (see point 5 below).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-residential-care-provision>

3. An urgent or unavoidable intervention is to be determined by each relevant service in accordance with their triage process.
4. Good personal hygiene entails
 - I. handwashing with hot water and soap whenever possible,
 - II. use of a hand sanitizer gel if handwashing facilities are unavailable,
 - III. handwashing with hot soap and water at the earliest possible convenience
5. Suitable PPE in this setting consists of water resistant surgical mask, apron and gloves in addition to goggles or a visor if there is risk of aerosol transmission. This is consistent with guidance given to colleagues in Sheffield Teaching Hospital's Community teams. Where this is unavailable in its entirety, staff are recommended to use as many items as possible.

These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- Staff are reminded to follow usual control measures including risk assessments.
- For the majority of staff Covid-19 will be a mild to moderate illness.
- All members of staff at risk of more severe illness should not be working.
- Four out of five members of the population are going to experience this illness at some point.
- There may be intermittent difficulties with supply of PPE and therefore prioritisation of activities requiring additional PPE may be necessary. This is an issue across the country and being worked on at national governmental level.