

Approach to Home Visits

TRIAGE ALL HOME VISIT REQUESTS

Visit only if clinically indicated and it will inform management

Consider whether a video call would be a suitable alternative

Shielding is not in itself an absolute indication for home visits¹

Rationalise



MINIMISE CONTACT WITH ANYONE IN THE HOUSE

Spend the shortest amount of time possible within the home

Only take essential equipment

Minimise



PLAN TO AVOID CONTAMINATION

Don/doff PPE (personal protective equipment) at specified points during the visit process

Carefully bag up removed PPE

Clean equipment, car and yourself

Sanitise



Home Visit Equipment

ESSENTIAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Apron

Gloves

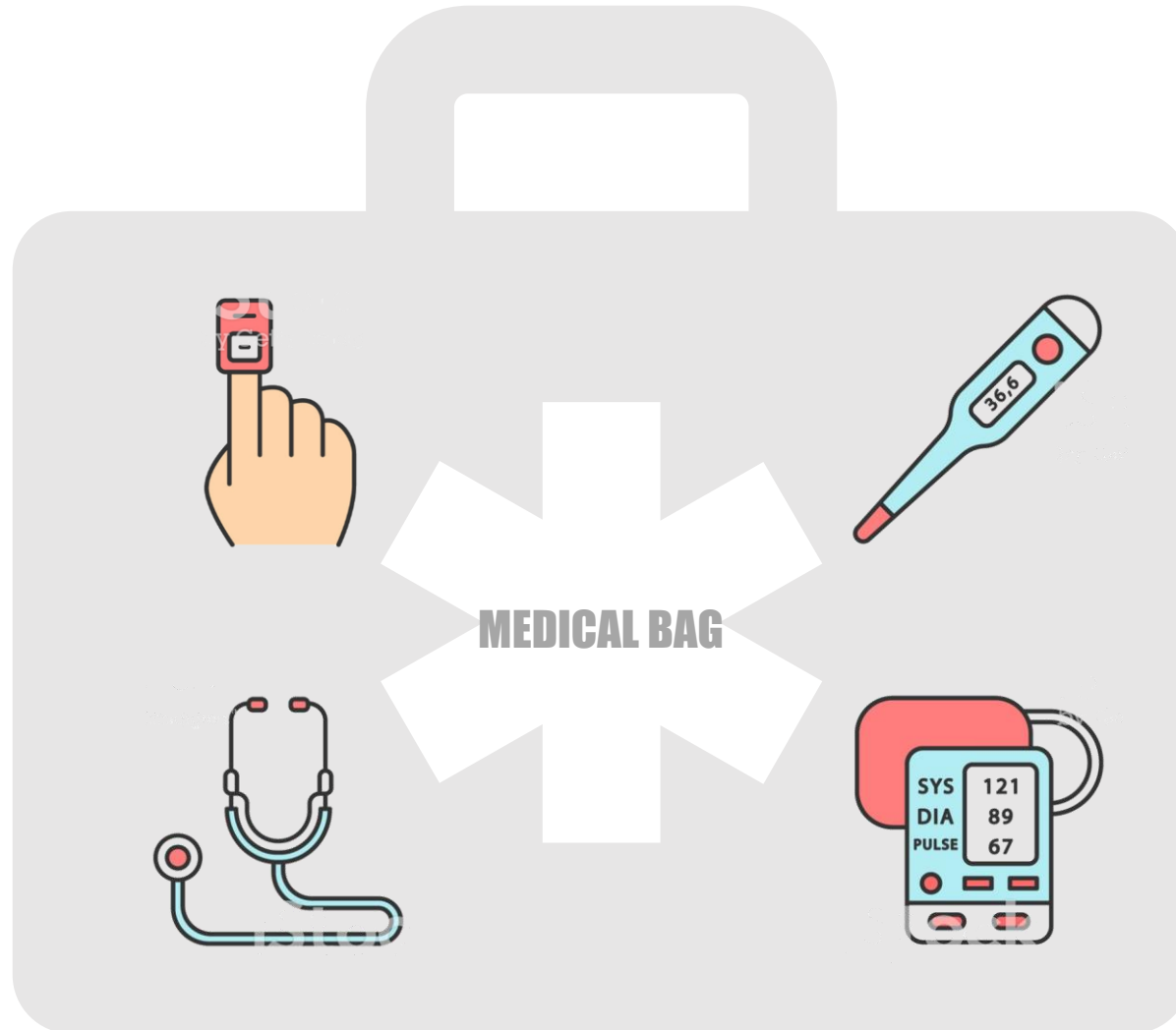
Mask

Eye protection

Plastic bags

Disinfecting wipes

Hand sanitiser

**CONSIDER**

Peak flow meter

Urine dipsticks

DNACPR forms

Home Visit Process

Leave practice

Collect the designated protective, clinical and cleaning equipment and waste bags
Consider whether alternative clothing is needed

Arrive at property

Don PPE: apron → mask → eye protection → double gloves
Leave waste container by exit of property

Enter property

Only enter if necessary – ‘eyeballing’ the patient may be all that is needed
Other household members should ideally remain in a separate room

Leave property

Doff PPE: outer gloves → apron → eye protection → mask and place single use items into white plastic bag
Clean equipment and place wipes and inner gloves into the same bag
Alcohol gel hands and bare arms before entering the car

Return to practice

Wipe down steering column, gear stick and door handles
Return to practice via agreed entrance and place white bag in designated orange clinical waste bin
Wash hands/arms thoroughly, consider changing into alternative clothing, with visit clothing bagged up prior to washing

Top Tips



Instead of taking a white plastic bag and bringing it back to the surgery, consider taking an orange clinical waste bag and leaving it at the property. If the patient is not suspected COVID then they can put it in their domestic waste immediately, if they are suspected COVID then double-bag and they need to wait 72h



If you decide to take a blood pressure cuff, place it inside a sealed bag so it is not contaminated if it isn't used



Try to maintain a 2 metre distance from anyone and do not sit down