**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 visits

**Minimise contact with anyone in the house**
Spend the shortest amount of time possible within the home

Only take essential equipment

**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

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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**

1. **Leave practice**
   - Collect the designated protective, clinical and cleaning equipment and waste bags
   - Consider whether alternative clothing is needed

2. **Arrive at property**
   - Don PPE: apron → mask → eye protection → double gloves
   - Leave waste container by exit of property

3. **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

4. **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

5. **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.