From: GDS.Correspondence Sent: 07 August 2020 11:51 To: GDS.Correspondence

Subject: Early Alert: 1895V+ / 8835+ masks

Please see the information below and attached which is being issued at the request of PHA Infection. Prevention and Control Cell.

Dear Practitioner

It has come to our attention that an early alert has been raised in one of the Health and Social Care Trusts. The alert has outlined that in December 2019 during flu season there was a shortage of the 1895V+ masks. This mask is made by 3M and the company advised that the 8835+ mask and the 1895V+ mask are the same. Therefore it was concluded as the 8835+ was an equivalent mask that staff did not require to be refit tested as indicated in 3M letter attached.

However as a precautionary measure, it is important to ensure:

- 1. Risk assessments are carried out on an individual basis to ensure any staff member fit-tested 1895V+ is still achieving a good fit-check on 8835+.
- 2. Your staff are all reminded of the need to undertake a fit-check every time they put on an FFP3 and where a satisfactory fit check is not achieved on an equivalent FFP3 mask or indeed any other equivalent mask then an fit-test should be undertaken.

If you require any additional information you should seek guidance from the manufacturer and staff who undertake your fit-testing.

PHA Infection, Prevention and Control Cell



General Dental Services Assistance Programme

Whatever's on your mind, call us free, 24/7 on:

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