

Safety Information Message

Reference: SIM2205

Issued: 26 April 2022

Review Date: 26 April 2023

HSE Safety Bulletin EPD1-2022: *Ear loop respirators/masks do not provide protection as tight fitting RPE*

Summary

HSE has published Safety Bulletin (EPD1-2022) on respirators/masks which rely on ear loops including those provided with clips, 'snuggers' or other means of tightening the fit of the mask to hold the respirator/mask in place. Action is required to ensure that Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) provision is adequate, suitable for the user and the activity to be undertaken.

Action

Refer to the HSE safety bulletin [EPD1-2022](#) and follow the required actions.

Suggested onward distribution

Health & Safety
Infection Prevention Control
Occupational Health

Risk Management
Safety Representatives
Supplies/Procurement

Enquiries

Enquiries and adverse incident reports should be addressed to:

Incident Reporting & Investigation Centre (IRIC)

NHS National Services Scotland

Tel: 0131 275 7575 Email: nss.irc@nhs.scot

IRIC remit: general information about adverse incidents, safety alerts and IRIC's role can be found in [CEL 43 \(2009\)](#), *Safety of Health, Social Care, Estates and Facilities Equipment: NHS Board and Local Authority Responsibilities*, issued 30 October 2009.

Report an incident: Information on [how to report an adverse incident](#)

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name for the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service <https://www.nss.nhs.scot/>

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