

# COVID-19 Healthcare Environmental Risk Assessment Algorithm

Identifying the most suitable area for planned placement of High Risk Pathway

[Section 5.13 COVID-19 IPC Addendum for acute settings](#)

Mechanical Ventilation equal to or more than 6 Air Changes per Hour (ACH)?

Yes

No

At least 2 metres between patient beds (measured bed centre to bed centre)/treatment chairs? \*1

At least 2 metres between patient beds (measured bed centre to bed centre)/treatment chairs? \*1

Yes

No

Yes

No

Can use for High risk pathway

Can use for high risk pathway. Expansion of room capacity as far as possible (>2m) is recommended

Can use for High risk pathway

Increase distance between patients beds to >2 metres before use as high risk pathway

OR

Find alternative area for high risk pathway

OR

where no alternative area available for High Risk Pathway & spacing cannot be increased to >2 metres, provide staff with Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)

\*1 Although a minimum of 2m between beds is required as part of COVID-19 risk assessment, NHS boards are reminded of the bed spacing requirements laid out in SHPNs detailed in the addendum which continue to apply. NHS Boards are also reminded of the importance of assessing all areas for maximum room occupancy.