



# Intercollegiate General Surgery Guidance on COVID-19



## Emergency Surgery

- Consider COVID-19 diagnosis in all
- Consider CT thorax
- Add CT thorax if having CT abdo



## Planned Surgery

- Risk assessment for COVID-19
- Greater risks of surgery
- Consent
- Risk-reducing strategies (e.g. stoma)



## PPE

- PPE for all laparotomies
- Follow national / local guidelines
- Eye protection
- Practise donning & doffing



## Theatre



- For positive / suspected cases:
- Minimum staffing levels
  - All staff full PPE including visors
  - Smoke extraction
  - Intubation / extubation in theatre



## Laparoscopy

- Risk of aerosol-type infection
- Consider ONLY in v. selected cases
- Filters etc. difficult to implement
- Appendicitis: conservative / open
- Cholecystitis: conservative if safe



## Endoscopy

- Emergency only
- Follow guidance from BSG
- Upper GI endoscopy requires full PPE



27 March 2020 – Guidance will be regularly updated

